

Minutes of the **meeting** of the **Combined Fire Authority for County Durham and Darlington** held at **Fire and Rescue HQ, Durham** on **11 March 2024** at **10.00 am**.

Present:

Durham County Councillors:

Councillors A Batey, R Bell, J Blakey, C Hampson, N Jones, C Marshall, C Martin, I McLean, J Quinn, S Quinn, G Richardson, K Rooney, K Shaw, J Shuttleworth and S Zair.

Darlington Borough Councillors:

Councillor A Anderson and G Lee.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Atkinson, J Cairns, B Kellet, E Peeke, D Ray and P Sexton.

Independent Persons:

Apologies received from C Hugill.

A1 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

A2 Minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2024 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair (for copy see file of minutes).

A3 Current Correspondence

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

A4 Notes of the Salary Review Group

The Authority received a report of the Chair of the Salary Review Group which provided an update on the discussions and recommendations of the Committee held on 8 February 2024 (for copy see file of minutes).

A5 Notes of the Human Resources Committee

The Authority received a report of the Chair of the Human Resources which provided an update on the discussions and recommendations of the Committee held on 20

February 2024. Cllr C Martin highlighted that the results of full DBS checks on all Firefighters will be monitored by the Committee. (for copy see file of minutes).

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

A6 Report under Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989

The Authority considered a report outlining a contravention of an enactment or rule of law pursuant to Section 5 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

The Deputy Clerk explained that at the meeting of the Combined Fire Authority held on the 16 February 2024, members considered a report of the Treasurer including details of the Council Tax base figure which has subsequently been identified as incorrect, therefore requires the precept decision to be retaken.

Members were asked to consider the advice contained in the report when considering the revised Revenue Budget 2024/25 report of the Treasurer.

Members **noted** the content of the report.

Members **agreed** to consider the advice contained in this report when considering the report of the Treasurer.

A7 Revenue Budget 2024/25

The Authority received a report seeking members approval to amend the 2024/25 revenue budget and the associated resolutions to reflect a change in the council tax base for Durham County Council (DCC).

Members **approved** the amendments to the 2024/25 revenue budget and the associated resolutions set out in the report.

A8 Localism Act – Pay Policy Statement 2024/25

The Authority considered a seeking approval of the pay policy statement for 2024/25.

Members **approved** the 2024/25 pay policy statement as set out at Appendix A.

Members **noted** that the statement will be published on the Authority's website.

A09 Directors Recruitment – Delegated Authority Request

Members were introduced to a report seeking approval from the Combined Fire Authority (CFA) to give delegated authority to the Appointments Panel to fully oversee the appointment of the Uniformed Director role, which is currently out to advert.

Members **noted** the report and timeline for Director recruitment.

Members **approved** the Appointments Panel to have delegated authority to appoint the successful candidate to the role of Director.

A10 Any Other Business

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

The Chair confirmed that there was no other business.

CLOSE OF MEETING