

At a **meeting** of the **Combined Fire Authority for County Durham and Darlington** held at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Belmont Business Park on, on **Wednesday 21 March 2018** at 10.00 am.

**Present:**

**Durham County Councillors:**

Councillors B Avery, A Batey, D Bell, P Brookes, C Carr, A Gardner, P Howell, L Marshall, R Manchester (substitute for F Tinsley) H Nicholson, C Potts, G Richardson, J Robinson, J Shuttleworth, M Simmons (substitute for M McGaun) and J Turnbull.

**Darlington Borough Councillors:**

Councillors B Dixon, B Jones and G Lee.

**Independent Standards Members:**

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Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Bell, J Dykes, K Hawley, D Hicks, A Laing, M McGaun, G Richardson, S Richmond, F Tinsley.

The Chair noted that the opportunity to send out papers electronically to members from Durham County Council would be explored for future meetings of the Authority.

The Chair thanked the organisation committee of the Blues and Twos ball for their hard work in raising £5000 for The Fire Fighters Charity and Durham Agency Crime.

The Chair noted that the Service were runners up at the Public-Sector Innovation Awards in relation to the drone and that the Service were the silver award winner for UK Fire and Rescue Service of the Year.

The Chair noted that Cllr Laing had been voted Labour Councillor of the Year for the region.

**A1 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**A2 Minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2018 were confirmed as a correct record (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 and the status of each (for copy see file of minutes).

### **A4 Notes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee**

The Authority considered a report of the Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which provided an update on the discussions made at the meeting held on 31 January 2018 (for copy see file of minutes).

#### **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

### **A5 Notes of the Audit and Risk Committee**

The Authority considered a report of the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, which provided an update on the discussions at the meeting held on 22 February 2018 (for copy see file of minutes).

#### **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

### **A6 Notes of the Policy and Performance Review Committee**

The Authority considered a report of the Chair of the Policy and Performance Review Committee, which provided an update on the discussions at the meeting held on 9 March 2018 (for copy see file of minutes).

#### **Resolved:**

That the report be noted.

### **A7 Local Government Association (LGA) Subscription**

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Fire Officer which provided details of the LGA subscription for 2018/19 and noted the loyalty and prompt payment discount (for copy see file of minutes).

#### **Resolved:**

That the LGA subscription for 2018/19 be agreed.

## **A8 Three Year Strategic Plan 2018/19 – 2020/21 Incorporating Integrated Risk Management Plan**

The Authority considered a report from the Corporate Resources Manager which updated members with the details of the consultation feedback in response to the 2018/19 – 2020/21 three-year strategic plan which incorporated the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) (for copy see file of minutes).

The Chief Fire Officer summarised the results of the proposals that had been consulted on.

Cllr Batey encouraged members to invite Fire Service personnel to AAP and residents meetings in their constituencies to discuss the Strategic Plan and IRMP. This would help improve engagement and encourage more responses to future consultations.

Members thanked the Communication and Governance Team for their work on the Strategic plan and IRMP.

### **Resolved:**

That the 2018/19 – 2020/21 three-year strategic plan consultation outcomes were considered by members.

## **A9 Localism Act – Pay Policy Statement 2018/19**

The Authority considered a report of the Treasurer and Clerk which sort the approval of the pay policy statement for 2018/19 (for copy see file of minutes).

### **Resolved:**

- i. That the 2018/19 pay policy statement be approved;
- ii. That the statement be published on the Authority's website.

## **A10 Performance Report – Quarter Three 2017/18**

The Authority considered a report of the Area Manager Training, Assets and Assurance which presented a summary of organisational performance at the end of quarter three of 2017/18 (for copy see file of minutes).

Cllr Turnbull encouraged members to attend and observe a Safe and Wellbeing visit.

### **Resolved:**

The contents of the report be noted.

## **A11 Inclusive Fire Service Group Improvement Strategies**

The Authority considered the report of the Assistant Chief Fire Officer Service Support which updated members on the Inclusive Fire Service Group (IFSG) Improvement Strategies. The gap analysis and action plan were considered.

**Resolved:**

- i. The publication of Circular NGC/1/18 IFSG Improvement strategies be noted;
- ii. The content of the report and action plan be noted.

**A12 Deliberate Fires Presentation**

Station Manager, Phil Innis, presented details of the work being undertaken in the Easington district in relation to deliberate fires.

Members noted the importance of the work being undertaken and arson trends were discussed.

**A 13 AOB**

The Chief Fire Officer noted the decommissioning of HMS Bulwark and gained Members approval to write a letter of support for the ship.

There was no other business.

**A14 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.

**B15 Long Service and Good Conduct**

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Fire Officer which informed members of those uniformed staff who have satisfactorily completed twenty years' service (for copy see file of minutes).

**Resolved:**

That it be approved to submit the names to the relevant Government Department for the award of the Fire Brigade Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

**B16 Emergency Response Review Update**

The Authority considered a report of the Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Service Delivery, on the changes to the Emergency Response (ER) arrangements which are set to be trialled from 1 April 2018 following the ER review carried out in 2017.

**Resolved:**

- i. The alternative Emergency Response review staffing trials are noted;
- ii. That reports on the progress of the Emergency Response review options be received.

**AOB**

The Chair queried apprentice recruitment. The Workforce Development Manager explained the retirement profile of the Service and that apprentice recruitment would commence in June 2018 for apprentices to start with the service in September 2018.

There was no other business.

**Significant Dates**

- Sunday 1 April – Service 70<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration and past and present date at the Service Training Centre
- Apprentice Passing out – Friday 217 April
- Thursday 10 May – CFA Away Day

**CLOSE OF MEETING**