

At a **meeting** of the **Combined Fire Authority for County Durham and Darlington** held at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Belmont Business Park on **Tuesday 17 July 2018** at **10.00 am**.

Present:

Durham County Councillors:

Councillors B Avery, A Batey, D Bell, P Brookes, P Howell, A Laing, R Manchester (Substitute for C Carr), L Marshall, H Nicholson, C Potts, G Richardson, J Shuttleworth, W Stelling, F Tinsley, D Stoker and J Turnbull.

Darlington Borough Councillors:

Councillors B Jones, C Johnson and S Richmond.

Independent Standards Members:

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Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Bell, C Carr, A Gardner, D Hicks, J Robinson, M Simmons and B Dixon.

A1 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

A2 Minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2018 were confirmed as a correct record.

The Clerk requested approval for amendments to part B of the minutes to allow the publication of one full set of minutes which would not disclose any confidential information but would document any decisions taken. The amendments were agreed (for copy see file of minutes).

A3 Current Correspondence

The Authority received an update from the 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 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 13 June 2018 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the contents of the report be noted.

A5 Member Champions, Member Buddy System and Affiliation with Fire Stations

The Authority considered a report of the Assistant Chief Fire Officer – Service Delivery which set out the two new Member Champion roles and confirmed the Senior Leadership Team contacts for the member buddy arrangements and the fire station affiliation list (for copy see file of minutes).

The Assistant Chief Fire Officer noted minor amendments to the member buddy and station affiliation lists to ensure the systems aligned to member champion contacts already in place.

Resolved:

- (i) That the new member champion roles were agreed for the next 12 months.
- (ii) That the member buddy and station affiliation list were noted.

A6 Performance Report Quarter Four 2017/18

The Authority considered a report of the Area Manager Community Risk Management which presented a summary of organisational performance at the end of the fourth quarter of the 2017/18 financial year (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the contents of the report be noted.

A7 Member Attendance at Conference

The Authority considered a report of the Chair which gave feedback to members on Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Chiefs and Chairs' Conference held on 30 May 2018 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the contents of the report be noted.

A8 Firefighter Apprenticeship Scheme Update

The Authority considered a report of the Head of Workforce Development which provided an update on the firefighter apprenticeship scheme, the outcomes of the review undertaken and the progress of the current selection process (for copy see file of minutes).

Members commented positively on the progression of fire service cadets and apprenticeship retention.

Resolved:

That the contents of the report be noted.

A9 Building a Safer Future Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety: Final Report – Dame Judith Hackitt

The Authority considered a report of the Head of Community Risk Management which provided an overview of the final report following the review of building regulations and fire safety (the Hackitt Review) outlining the potential implications for the Service (for copy see file of minutes).

Members commented on the report and queried current procedure for houses in multiple occupation. The Assistant Chief Fire Officer confirmed that the properties were licensed and monitored by the local authority and were inspected by the fire and rescue service on exception only and when requested to do so.

Resolved:

That the contents of the report be noted and further updates received once additional information is known.

A10 Emergency Medical Response Update

The Authority considered a report of the Area Manager Community Risk Management which provided an update on the service position with emergency medical response (EMR) (for copy see file of minutes).

Members queried whether there had been any change to the FBU position nationally. The Area Manager Community Risk Management confirmed that the FBU were still in negotiations with the NJC.

Resolved:

That the contents of the report be noted.

A11 The Adrian Thomas Review

The Authority considered a report of the Assistant Chief Fire Officer – Service Support which provided an update on the progress of the action plan which was developed in response to the 'Independent review of conditions of service for fire and rescue staff in England'; The Adrian Thomas Review (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

- (a) That the progress made against the action plan be noted and monitored.

(b) That future reports be received.

A12 Developing the Fire and Rescue Service Inspections: Learning Report June 2018

The Authority considered a report of the Area Manager Training, Assets and Assurance which briefed members on the report published by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) entitled 'Developing the fire and rescue service inspections: Learning report', published in June 2018 (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the contents of the report be noted.

A13 Government Response: Enabling Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to sit and vote on Combined Fire and Rescue Authorities

The Authority considered a report of the Chief Fire Officer which informed members of the Government's response to the consultation entitled 'Enabling Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to sit and vote on Combined Fire and Rescue Authorities' (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

- (a) That the contents of the report and the Government's response to the consultation be noted.
- (b) That there will be further consultation in relation to the amendment of the combination schemes be noted.
- (c) That responsibility to consider and submit any further consultation responses that are required over the summer period be delegated to the Chief Fire Officer, following discussion with the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk.

A14 AOB

There was no other business.

A15 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.

B16 Fire Fatality Presentation

The Area Manager Emergency Response presented details of a fatal fire incident in June 2018.

Members asked for their thanks to be passed onto the crews involved.

Resolved:

That the presentation be noted.

B17 Evenwood Fire Update Presentation

The Area Manager Training, Assets and Assurance presented details of a fire incident in June 2018.

Members asked for their thanks to be passed onto the crews involved.

Resolved:

That the presentation be noted.

B18 Estates Update

The Authority considered a report of the Head of Corporate Resources which provided an update on the latest position in relation to the Estates Improvement Programme (EIP) (for copy see file of minutes).

Resolved:

That the contents of the report be noted.

B19 Any Other Business

The Director of Corporate Resources and Treasurer confirmed that the Finance Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday 24 July would be cancelled.

There was no other business.

CLOSE OF MEETING