

DRAFT

Minutes of a meeting of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority, held at the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters on Thursday 24th September 2015.

PRESENT

Cllr D Bajaj	Cllr R Begy
Cllr H Bhavsar	Mr S Bray CC
Mr M Charlesworth CC	Mr J Coxon CC
Mr G Hart CC	Mr T Kershaw CC
Ms B Newton CC	Mrs C Radford CC
Mr N Rushton CC (Chairman)	Mr R Sharp CC
Mr R Shepherd CC	Cllr K Singh Johal
Sir Peter Soulsby (Vice Chairman)	Mr M Wyatt CC

OFFICERS

Mr R Chandler	Chief Fire and Rescue Officer
Mr S Lunn	Deputy Chief Fire and Rescue Officer
Mr A Brodie	Assistant Chief Fire and Rescue Officer
Mr G Goodman	Solicitor and Monitoring Officer
Mrs J Green	Member Services Co-ordinator

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr A Thalukdar.

2. To receive declarations by members of interests in respect of items on this Agenda

None.

3. Urgent Business

None.

4. Chair's Announcements

The Chairman announced that Chief Fire and Rescue Officer (CFO) Chandler would provide an open briefing at County Hall (Leicestershire County Council)

on the IRMP Consultation process for all Members, Executives and Group Leaders. A suitable date and time will be confirmed in due course.

5. Public Participation/CFA Rules of Procedure Rule 9 – Member Questions

In line with the provisions set out in the Constitution the Chair of the FBU (Fire Brigades Union), Gavin Lynch was invited to address the Combined Fire Authority (CFA).

Mr Lynch expressed the concerns conveyed to him by Members of the FBU in respect of the proposals outlined for consultation in the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP).

Mr Lynch was asked to forward his statement to CFO Chandler.

6. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Combined Fire Authority held on 9th July 2015 as a correct record.

RESOLVED:

The Combined Fire Authority (CFA) confirmed the Minutes of the Meeting of the CFA on 9th July 2015 as a correct record.

7. Revised Governance Structure for the Combined Fire Authority

Members were asked to note that the report on the CFA Constitution, which was scheduled for this meeting, will now be made to the December meeting. A considerable amount of work is required to amend the Contract Procedure Rules and to consider the impact of the Finance Procedure Rules arising from the new EU Regulations.

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted this information.

8. Director of Finance and Corporate Services

CFO Chandler presented the report to the CFA advising of the arrangements made for the redundancy of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services and for the appointment of a new Treasurer.

The Chairman welcomed Alison Greenhill to the meeting.

The recommendations were moved by the Chairman and seconded by Sir Peter Soulsby.

The motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED:

The CFA:

- a. Noted the arrangements made with the Director of Finance and Corporate Services for the termination of his employment.
- b. Appointed Alison Greenhill as the Treasurer with effect from today's date on such terms as may be agreed by the CFO with Ms Greenhill

and Leicester City Council for her services.

- c. Transferred the designation in the Constitution of the Treasurer as the Scheme Manager for the Firefighters' pension and Compensation Schemes to the Monitoring Officer with effect from 31st July 2015.

9. East Midlands Ambulance Service – verbal update

CFO Chandler informed the CFA that talks are ongoing with the East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) to create a base for their use at the newly developed Fire Station at Castle Donington. It was also confirmed that a number of EMAS Staff had recently moved into an office at Fire Service HQ, Birstall.

Further details would be presented to the meeting in December.

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted the information provided.

10. Medium Term Financial Plan - Presentation

The Treasurer presented a detailed powerpoint presentation to the CFA.

The presentation outlined the Budget 2015/16 details, current projections and gave an overview of strategic issues.

The CFA were grateful for the in-depth information and clarity provided.

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted the report.

11. Towards 2020: Integrated Risk Management Proposals

Deputy Chief Fire and Rescue Officer (DCFO) Lunn presented the CFA with details of the proposals for the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2016-20. Further information was provided via a Powerpoint presentation. The recommendation within the report to approve the proposals for public consultation was put to a vote and carried with 11 members voting for the motion and 5 against.

RESOLVED:

The CFA approved that the IRMP 2016-20 proposals be made subject to public consultation.

12. Internal Audit Charter

Neil Jones, Head of Internal Audit Service, Leicestershire County Council was welcomed to the meeting to present the draft Internal Audit Charter to the CFA for its approval.

RESOLVED:

The CFA approved the draft Internal Audit Charter.

13. Annual Treasury Management Report 2014/15

The Treasurer presented the Annual Treasury Management Report 2014/15 to the CFA.

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted the report.

14. Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement 2014/15

Alison Breadon and Jane Jones, External Auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers were welcomed to the meeting to present the External Auditor's opinion on the CFA's financial statements and submit the 2014/15 Statement of Accounts and the Annual Governance Statement for approval ahead of publication.

The recommendations were moved and carried.

RESOLVED:

The CFA:

- a) Noted the ISA 260 report presented by PricewaterhouseCoopers
- b) Approved the Letter of Representation.
- c) Agreed the Statement of Accounts 2014/15
- d) Approved the Annual Governance Statement 2014/15

15. Annual Report and Statement of Assurance 2014/15

CFO Chandler presented the draft Annual Report and Statement of Assurance for 2014/15 for approval by the CFA.

The recommendations were moved and carried.

RESOLVED:

The CFA:

- a) Approved the draft Annual Report and Statement of Assurance 2014/15.
- b) Authorised the CFO to make any minor amendments necessary prior to publication.

16. Fire Control Collaboration

CFO Chandler presented the CFA with an update on the latest developments regarding the proposed Fire Control Collaboration with Nottinghamshire and the City of Nottingham Fire Authority.

The recommendations were moved and carried.

RESOLVED:

The CFA:

- a) Noted the inability to progress the proposed Fire Control Collaboration project with Nottinghamshire.
- b) Dissolved the Member led working Group and governance structure to oversee the implementation and long term delivery of the Fire Control Function.

17. Public Consultation on Emergency Services Collaboration

The recommendations were moved and carried.

RESOLVED:

- a) Noted the consultation paper.
- b) Decided that it did not believe that putting responsibility for the Fire and Rescue Service with a Police and Crime Commissioner would improve democratic accountability.
- c) Believed that collaboration between the emergency services is best achieved through partnership and that every effort should be made to pursue maximum efficiencies, particularly in support of services, through joint working.
- d) Agreed to review the position following the election of a Police and Crime Commissioner in May 2016.

18. Date of Next Meeting

This was confirmed as **Wednesday** 9th December 2015 at **11.00am**. Group briefings to commence at 10.30am.

24th September 2015
11:00 – 13:18

CHAIR