

Minutes of a meeting of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority's Policy Committee held at the Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters on Wednesday 27th August 2014

PRESENT

Cllr S Corral – in the Chair

Cllr C Bhatti

Ms B Newton CC

Mr B Liquorish CC

Mr M Wyatt CC

OFFICERS

Mr D Webb Chief Fire and Rescue Officer

Mr T Peel Treasurer and Director of Finance and Corporate Services (left 14:35hrs)

Mr M Andrew Head of HR, Planning and Performance (left 14:35hrs)

Mr G Goodman Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

Mrs J Green Member Services Co-ordinator

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms S Maher Director of HR and Councillor Development, East Midlands Councils

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr K Bool, Mrs Christine Radford CC, Mr Richard Chandler (Deputy Chief Fire and Rescue Officer) and Mr Steve Lunn (Director of Community Services).

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Chairman's Announcements

The Chair's announcements had been circulated to all present.

5. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

RESOLVED:

The Committee confirmed as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 2014.

6. Urgent Items

None.

7. Performance Monitoring Report

The Head of HR, Planning and Performance presented this routine update report to the Committee in respect of the organisational performance against the relevant Secondary Indicators for the period April 2013 to March 2014.

RESOLVED:

The Committee noted the performance for the period April 2013 to March 2014 against a range of indicators.

8. Key Projects Report

The Head of HR, Planning and Performance presented this routine update report to the Committee in respect of on-going projects and tasks undertaken since the last Committee meeting on 7th May 2014.

RESOLVED:

The Committee noted the report.

9. Financial Budget Monitoring

The Treasurer presented this regular routine financial monitoring report to the Committee. This report highlighted the current position of the Capital and Revenue budgets at Financial Period 4, ending on 31st July 2014.

RESOLVED:

The Committee:

- a) Noted the budget position as at the end of July 2014.
- b) Noted the review of growth and savings as at the end of July 2014.
- c) Noted the review of carry forwards as at the end of July 2014.
- d) Noted the treasury management position as at the end of July 2014.
- e) Agreed the addition of £125,000 to the 2014/15 Capital Programme for works at Eastern Station as set out in Paragraph 3.5 of the report.
- f) Agreed the virement of £263,218 to the General Reserve for efficiency savings identified through the Organisational Change Project as outlined in paragraph 3.12 of the report.

10. Firefighters' Pension Schemes

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services presented this report to inform the Committee of changes to the Firefighters' Pension Scheme concerning

additional pension benefit provisions and to determine, for consultation with recognised representative bodies, if additional payments should be deemed pensionable. The outcomes would be included in an updated Administration of Pay Policy.

RESOLVED:

The Committee:

- a) Noted the changes made by the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) (Amendment) (No 2) Order 2013 to additional pension benefits.
- b) For the purpose of consultation with the recognised Representative Bodies, determined the pensionable status of payments for Temporary Promotions, Acting Up, Dog Handler's Allowance, Fire Protection Out of Hours Working and the Training Allowance in accordance with the recommendations made in the report at paragraphs 3.6 to 3.10 inclusive of the report.

11. Annual Governance Statement for 2013/14

The Treasurer presented this report outlining the background and approach taken to produce the Combined Fire Authority's (CFA's) Annual Governance Statement (AGS) 2013/14, seeking approval for its publication on the CFA's website with the final Statement of Accounts.

RESOLVED:

The Committee reviewed and approved the Annual Governance Statement 2013/14 for publication on the CFA's website subject to such changes as are required by the Code of Practice in Local Authority Accounting and detailed in paragraph 3.7 of the report.

12. Arrangements for the recruitment of the next Chief Fire and Rescue Officer

The Chief Fire and Rescue Officer (CFO) presented this report to the Committee and welcomed Sam Maher from East Midlands Councils to the meeting who had assisted with the contents of the report.

RESOLVED:

The Committee recommended for approval by the CFA at its meeting on 25th September 2014 the salary, process and timetable set out in the report for the appointment of the next CFO.

13. Date of next meeting:

This was confirmed as 5th November 2014.

14. Resolved to exclude the public

The following items are exempt under Part 1, paragraph 4 and paragraph 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 respectively; and in accordance with Part 2, paragraph 10 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the public interest in the items remaining confidential outweighs the public interest in disclosure. For item 15 this is as the CFA is entitled to discuss industrial relations matters on a private

basis to protect its interests. For item 16 this is because the report identifies an individual to whom the CFA owes a duty of confidence.

15. Exempt Item – Response to Industrial Action

The CFO presented this update report to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

The Committee:

- a) Noted the response to the industrial action set out in Appendix 1.
- b) Approved all retrospective payments as set out in Appendix 2.
- c) Authorised the Chief Fire and Rescue Officer to approve contingency payments in line with those set out in Appendix 2.

16. Exempt Item - Overpayment of Injury Award

The Solicitor and Monitoring Officer presented this report to the Committee.

RESOLVED:

The Committee approved the recoupment of the overpayment made to the individual concerned as set out in paragraph 3.7 and 3.9 of the report.

27th August 2014
2:00pm – 14:45hrs

Chair