

DRAFT

Minutes of a meeting of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority, held at Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland on Wednesday, 7th February 2018.

PRESENT

Cllr S Barton	Ms B Newton CC
Cllr K Bool	Mr N Rushton CC (Chairman)
Mr M Charlesworth CC	Mr J Poland CC
Mrs H Fryer CC	Mrs B Seaton CC
Mr D Harrison CC	Cllr K Singh Johal
Mr J Kaufman CC	Mr D Slater CC
Mr B Liquorish CC	Cllr A Thalukdar
Cllr K Master	Mr M Wyatt CC

OFFICERS

Mr R Taylor	Chief Fire and Rescue Officer
Mr R Hall	Assistant Chief Fire and Rescue Officer
Mr A Brodie	Assistant Chief Fire and Rescue Officer
Ms A Greenhill	Treasurer
Ms L Haslam	Monitoring Officer
Mrs J Green	Committee Support Officer

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr M Chohan, Mr P Bedford CC and Mr S Bray CC.

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

Mr J Poland CC wished his employment with Leicestershire Police be noted.

3. Urgent Business

None.

4. Chair's announcements

The Chairman informed the CFA of the following matters:

- On 9th January 2018 the Vice Chair opened the Institute of Fire Engineers (IFE) 100th year Centenary Event held at Central Fire Station where a commemorative plaque was unveiled.
- Members were informed that on 4th April 2018 Sir Thomas Windsor, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services will visit Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service meeting with Members of the Senior Management Team and undertake a tour of Fire Service Headquarters, Coalville and Southern Fire Stations.
- Members were informed of the forthcoming LGA Annual Fire Conference and Exhibition 2018 taking place over 13th and 14th March 2018 and held at the Hilton Newcastle Gateshead Hotel.
- The Chairman made reference to the latest position in respect of the firefighters' pay increase agreed by the NJC but pointed out that negotiations continued.

Finally, the Chairman informed the CFA that Jackie Green, Committee Services Officer was leaving the post at the end of the month. The CFA wished her well in her new venture.

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

None.

6. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting of the Combined Fire Authority (CFA) held on 11th December 2017 as a correct record.

RESOLVED:

The CFA confirmed the Minutes of the Meeting of the CFA on 11th December 2017 as a correct record.

7. To consider the Minutes of the Corporate Governance Committee meeting held on 24th January 2018

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted the Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate Governance Committee held on 24th January 2018.

8. Budget Strategy 2018/19 to 2020/21

The Treasurer presented this report to seek the CFA's approval to the budget for 2018/19, and the proposed budget strategy and capital programme for the period to 2020/21.

A Powerpoint presentation was delivered to enhance the information within the report.

The CFA thanked the Treasurer and her colleagues at Leicester City Council for their hard work.

The recommendations as set out in the formal resolutions including the level of precept were formally moved and agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED:

The CFA:

- a) Approved the budget for 2018/19, and the budget strategy described in the report, subject to changes which reflect final rates figures notified by billing authorities, as now reported by the Treasurer (which are reflected in this resolution).
- b) Noted that the final position enables an additional one off contribution to the estates strategy reserve of £350,000.
- c) Approved the capital programme described at paragraph 10, and authorise schemes to be committed where stated.
- d) Approved the strategy for deploying the estates strategy reserve, described at paragraph 12.
- e) Approved the changes to reserves described at paragraph 12.
- f) Noted comments received on the draft budget.
- g) Noted that the aggregate of the tax bases communicated by billing authorities for 2018/19 is £316,685.05 (Item T in the formula in Section 42B of the Act).
- h) Agreed the following amounts be calculated for the year 2018/19 in accordance with Section 42A and Section 42B of the Act:
 - (a) £36,111,689 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Authority estimates for the items set out in Section 42A(2) of the Act.
 - (b) £15,619,000 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the authority estimates for the items set out in Section 42A(3) of the Act.
 - (c) £20,492,689 Being the amount by which (a) above exceeds (b) above, calculated by the Authority in accordance with Section 42A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax Requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 42B of the Act)
 - (d) £64.7100 Being the amount at (c) above (Item R) divided by the amount at 2.7 above (Item T), calculated by the Authority in accordance with Section 42B of the Act as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.
- i) Agreed that the Authority, in accordance with Section 47 of the Act, hereby sets the amounts shown in the appendix to this resolution as

the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2018/19 for each of the valuation bands.

- j) Agreed that, in accordance with Section 48 of the Act, precepts be issued to each billing authority in the amount shown on the Appendix to this resolution.
- k) Noted the view of the Treasurer that reserves are adequate during 2018/19, and that estimates used to prepare the budget are robust.
- l) Approved the treasury strategy and prudential indicators described in paragraph 15 of the report, and Appendix 3.
- m) Approved the proposed policy on minimum revenue provision described in paragraph 16 of the report and Appendix 4.
- n) Noted the equality implications arising from the budget, as described at paragraph 17.
- o) Approved the scheme of virement described at Appendix 5 to the report.
- p) Determined under Section 52ZB of the Act, that the relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2018/19 is not excessive in accordance with principles issued under Section 52ZC of the Act and expected to be approved by Parliament (being an increase of less than 3%) and that in the event that the local government finance settlement has not been approved by 7th February, delegate the making of this determination to the Chief Fire Officer in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair.
- q) Noted that should the Chief Fire and Rescue Officer not be able to make the determination referred in (p) above, that resolutions (a) to (o) above shall be deemed not to be approved, and that an emergency meeting of the CFA shall be convened.

9. Organisational Update

The CFO presented this report to further update Members on business issues that fall outside of the business as usual reporting format covered in the Operational Update.

The recommendation was moved and agreed.

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted the contents of the report.

10. Planning Priorities 2018-21

The CFO presented this report to the CFA to seek its approval to update the Planning Framework and outline the Corporate priorities and aims for 2018-21.

The recommendation was moved and agreed.

RESOLVED:

The CFA approved the planning priorities and aims as set out in Appendix 1 of the report and authorised the CFO to approve the 'outcomes' section of the plan prior to its publication.

11. Operational Update

The CFO presented this report to update the CFA on key operational matters that have occurred since the last meeting.

The recommendation was moved and agreed.

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted the contents of the report.

12. Consultation Return: Fire and Rescue National Framework for England

The CFO presented this report to the CFA to seek its approval to the response to the consultation as set out at Appendix 1 to the report.

The recommendation was moved and agreed.

RESOLVED:

The CFA approved the contents of Appendix 1 and authorised the CFO to respond to the consultation on behalf of the Authority.

13. Pay Policy Statement 2018/19

The CFO presented this report to seek approval by the CFA to the Pay Policy Statement for 2018/19.

The recommendation was moved and agreed.

RESOLVED:

The CFA approved the Localism Act Pay Policy Statement 2018/19.

14. Collaboration Report

The CFO presented this update report to the CFA which focused on current collaboration arrangements and initiatives.

The recommendation was moved and agreed.

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted the contents of the report.

15. Calendar of Meetings 2018/19

RESOLVED:

The CFA approved the proposed calendar of meeting for the 2018/19 Municipal Year.

16. Date of Next Meeting

This was confirmed as Wednesday 20th June 2018 (annual meeting) to be held at Fire Service Headquarters, Birstall at 10.00am. Further details to

follow.

7th February 2018
11.00 am – 11.54 am

CHAIRMAN