

DRAFT

Minutes of a meeting of the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Combined Fire Authority, held at Leicestershire County Council, Leicester Road, Glenfield on Wednesday, 14th December 2016.

PRESENT

Cllr K Bool	Mrs C Radford CC
Mr S Bray CC	Mr N Rushton CC (Chairman)
Mr M Charlesworth CC	Mr R Shepherd CC
Mr J Coxon CC	Cllr K Singh Johal
Mrs J Fox CC	Cllr M Sood
Mr G Hart CC	Sir Peter Soulsby (Vice Chairman)
Mr T Kershaw CC	Cllr A Thalukdar
Ms B Newton CC	Mr M Wyatt CC
Cllr A Osman	

OFFICERS

Mr S Lunn	Chief Fire and Rescue Officer
Mr A Brodie	Assistant Chief Fire and Rescue Officer
Mr R Taylor	Assistant Chief Fire and Rescue Officer
Mr M Andrew	Area Manager: People and Organisation Development
Ms A Greenhill	Treasurer
Ms L Haslam	Monitoring Officer
Mrs J Green	Member Services Co-ordinator

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms H Brookes	External Audit, KPMG
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1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies received.

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Manjula Sood and Cllr Abdul Osman to the meeting.

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

Agenda

None.

3. Urgent Business

The Chairman agreed to take as an urgent item a report by the Employment Panel on the appointment of the post of Chief Fire and Rescue Officer.

This will be considered as an exempt report and taken as Item 14 at the end of the Agenda in closed session.

4. Chairman's announcements

The Chairman informed the CFA of the following events:

- On Monday, 14th November 2016 the Fire Service organised a team building event for the entire Leicester Tigers first team squad at Central Fire Station. A number of different and testing exercises were put together to help improve the players communication and team work. In return the Tigers will be working with the Fire Service to promote its public and community safety activities. The superbly run event has since been publicised in the Leicester Mercury and through the Tigers match day programme. Further activities of this nature are envisaged with other big sporting teams to continue to promote partnership working and improve the publicity of the work undertaken.
- The Braunstone Blues project has been awarded the 'Best Emergency Services Partnership of the Year' Award at the Excellence in Fire and Emergency Awards 2016. The Awards were sponsored and hosted by Fire Magazine and the award was sponsored by the Emergency Services Show.

Other nominees for the award were Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service and Police, London Fire Brigade, Securitas, EMAS and the regional Fire and Rescue Service First Responder Scheme.

The Braunstone Blues project is both pioneering and unique in the UK. It is recognised that the extended working relationships to non-traditional Fire and Rescue Service partners in non-traditional activities has been a beneficial development.

- On Monday, 12th December 2016 Leicester Cathedral hosted the first joint Police and Fire Annual Carol Service. Approximately 450 guests joined the Chief Constable and the Chief Fire and Rescue Officer making the event a huge success.
- An 'All Member Briefing' is planned for Friday, 3rd March 2017 to be held at Leicestershire County Council to demonstrate how we are working. A further briefing will be scheduled for all Members of Leicester City Council. The Monitoring Officer will engage with Rutland County Council's Chief Executive to extend an invitation to

Rutland County Councillors.

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 held on 29th September 2016 as a correct record.

RESOLVED:

The CFA confirmed the Minutes of the Meeting of the CFA on 29th September 2016 as a correct record.

7. To consider the draft Minutes of the Corporate Governance Committee Meeting held on 23 November 2016

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted the minutes of the Corporate Governance Committee held on 23 November 2016.

8. External Audit Annual Audit Letter

The Treasurer supported by Helen Brookes, External Audit, KPMG presented the External Auditor's Annual Audit Letter 2015/16 to the CFA.

It was confirmed there were no issues to report.

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted the External Audit Annual Audit Letter.

9. Procurement of External Audit

The Treasurer presented this report to seek the approval of the CFA to the procurement and appointment of the CFA's external auditors from 2018/19.

The recommendation was moved and agreed.

RESOLVED:

The CFA agreed that Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (PSAA Ltd) is appointed to procure the external audit contract following a sector-led procurement option to be effective from 2018/19.

10. Independent Review of Conditions of Service for Fire and Rescue Staff in England

CFO Lunn presented this report to provide the CFA with a summary of the findings published by the Home Office following the completion of the Independent Review of conditions of Service for Fire and Rescue Staff in England.

The report was discussed in depth and it was recognised that any change to the conditions of service would potentially have a significant impact on

the workforce. Members were also keen to note that a robust approach was needed to ensure equality and diversity issues were being taken serious and dealt with positively.

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted the contents of the report and requested that the CFO prepare a letter on its behalf to the Rt Hon Brandon Lewis MP, Minister of State for Policing and the Fire Service seeking clarity of the Government's position in respect of the contents of the report.

11. Corporate and IRMP Objective Progress

CFO Lunn presented this report to the CFA to provide an update in respect of the progress made towards achieving the corporate and integrated risk management planning objectives as set out in the combined plan – Towards 2020.

The CFA were informed that to date progress towards achieving the objectives set was very much ahead of schedule.

The CFO confirmed that at present there was no apprenticeship scheme to offer however, work continues towards this being a viable opportunity in the future.

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted this update report.

12. Review of Fleet Arrangements – Summary Report

Assistant Chief Fire and Rescue Officer (ACO) Brodie presented this report to highlight the summary findings and recommendations following the completion of the review of fleet arrangements within Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service (LFRS).

The recommendations were moved and all agreed.

RESOLVED:

The CFA noted the contents of the report and approved the following recommendations:

- To reduce the size of the fleet by 10% through the provision of 17 fewer vehicles
- To flexibly extend the life of fire appliances to up to 12 years.
- To defer a decision on replacement of the older aerial ladder platform till the conclusion of the Special Appliances review.
- To purchase vehicles outright as a more cost effective method than lease purchasing.
- To no longer extend the life of the non-emergency response vehicles (cars and vans) beyond their warranty period.
- To continue to provide in-house fleet maintenance arrangements
- To maintain the current arrangement of 'provided' cars for officers

working in accordance with the flexible duty system and to commission a further review of the arrangements closer to the point whereby extant lease agreements are due to end.

13. Date of Next Meeting

This was confirmed as **Wednesday** 8th February 2017 to be held at Leicester City Council at 10.00 am.

14. Exclusion of the public

RESOLVED:

That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 members of the public be excluded from the meeting for the item of business concerning the Appointment of the Chief Fire and Rescue Officer on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1, Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and that, in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

15. Exempt Item – Report of the Employment Panel on the Appointment to the Post of Chief Fire and Rescue Officer

The CFA considered this matter, the Chairman having decided it was of an urgent nature, in view of the need to come to an early view on the appointment of a Chief fire and Rescue Officer.

The Monitoring Officer presented a report concerning the deliberations of the Employment Panel established to consider the appointment of a Chief Fire and Rescue Officer.

Following presentation of the report and having heard from members and officers it was moved by the Chairman and seconded by the Vice Chairman.

A vote was taken being 12 in Favour, 3 Against and 2 Abstentions.

The motion was carried.

RESOLVED:

That Mr S Lunn be appointed as Chief Fire and Rescue Officer with effect from 14th December 2016 on the terms and conditions set out in the report.

**14th December 2016
10:00 am – 11:35 am**

CHAIRMAN