

WEST YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 31 OCTOBER 2011 AT FIRE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS, BIRKENSHAW,

Present: Councillors D Ridgway (in the Chair), T Austin, V Binney, P Harrand, M Khan and A McKenna

7 MINUTES

That the Minutes of a meeting held on 1 August 2011 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

8 URGENT ITEM – Presentation: Emergency Response

Members received a brief verbal presentation on Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) funded rescue capability.

Work was being undertaken in West Yorkshire (as one of four national regions) on an integrated approach between the police, the ambulance and fire services.

9 ADMISSION OF THE PUBLIC

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the item of business specified below as it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public and press were present during this item, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of the descriptions specified.

AGENDA ITEM NO.	TITLE OF REPORT	MINUTE NUMBER	Description of exempt information by reference to the paragraph number in Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972
E6	New Control Project – submission of bid	12	Paragraph 3 – financial or business affairs

10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest in any matter under consideration at the meeting.

11 INDUSTRIAL ACTION PLANNING

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Operations which provided Members with an update with regard to the planning process in the event of potential industrial action scheduled for 30 November 2011.

It was reported that the plan formed part of the ongoing Business Continuity Plan process which was continually updated to reflect changing priorities. Members were advised that the current planned industrial action would be taken mainly by members of Unison.

In relation to potential future industrial action affecting operational response, Members discussed the possible requirement for armed forces deployment together with issues in relation to requests for 3rd party deployment should that need occur due to the limited availability of trained and competent workers.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

12 NEW CONTROL PROJECT – SUBMISSION OF BID

(This item was considered as exempt information under Schedule 12 A (3) of the Local Government Act 1972 – business or financial affairs)

The Director of Operations submitted a report which sought approval for the submission of an application for grant funding under the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) “Future of Fire Control Services scheme” for which £81m had been made available.

Members were advised that, since the demise of the Regional Control Centre project at the end of 2010, work had been on-going with regard to its possible replacement in the region and more specifically, on collaboration between West and South Yorkshire Fire Authorities. Such collaboration would offer opportunities for improved resilience, efficiencies and economies of scale.

It was reported that £0.5m had already been included in the current capital plan to meet control room replacement costs. Details of the proposed joint West Yorkshire and South Yorkshire bid were included in the report now submitted.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the application for grant funding under the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) Future of Fire Control Services scheme be approved and made on the basis of a collaborative project between South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authorities; and

- (ii) That future Member briefings be arranged as appropriate to coincide with the development of any regional collaborative project.

Chair