



Minutes

Executive Committee

Date: 31 July 2013

Time: 9.30 am

Venue: Fire Service Headquarters, Birkenshaw

Present: Councillor M Khan (Chair), R Grahame (as substitute for Councillor T Austin), P Harrand, J Hughes and C Townsley

In Attendance: None

Apologies: Councillors T Austin and A Hussain

1 Minutes

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of a meeting held on 10 May 2013 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

2 Urgent Items

Membership of Outside Body – Police and Crime Commissioner Partnership Executive Group

The Chair gave approval for this item to be considered on the grounds of urgency as a decision was required which would not admit of delay (Min no. 5 refers).

Industrial action – alternative cover arrangements

Approval was given by the Chair to the inclusion of the verbal item at the request of the Chief Fire Officer on the grounds of urgency as it was an issue which was evolving on a daily basis (Min no. 6 refers)

3 Admission of the Public

RESOLVED

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 description 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
E5	Catering Provision – Training Centre	7	Paragraph 3 – financial or business affairs

4 Declarations of interest

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest were made in any matter under discussion at the meeting.

5 Membership of Outside Body – Police and Crime Commissioner Partnership Executive Group

The Director of Corporate Resources submitted a report which sought authorisation for the Chair to accept an invitation (received on 23 July 2013) to join in membership of the recently established Police and Crime Commissioner Partnership Executive Group.

It was reported that the Group would meet on a quarterly basis and would afford the Authority another opportunity to work closely with relevant partners in West Yorkshire towards shared values in making West Yorkshire a safer place.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Chair of the Authority be authorised to accept an invitation to sit on the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Partnership Executive Group for 2013 -14;
- (ii) That authorisation be given to appropriate substitution arrangements (Chair's nominee) in the event that the Chair of the Authority was not able to attend meetings of the PCC Executive Group at (i) above;

- (iii) That approval be given to the payment of travel and subsistence expenses related to representation on the PCC Partnership Executive Group;
- (iv) That annual appointments be made to the Group as part of the Authority's Outside Bodies nomination process; and
- (v) That the Minutes of meetings of the PCC Executive Group be submitted to the Fire Authority as appropriate for noting.

6 Industrial action – alternative cover arrangements

The Chief took the opportunity update Members of the Executive Committee about alternative cover arrangements that were being put in place in the event of any strike action to be taken by Firefighters.

It was reported that the earliest date for strike action would be 8 September and the Chief had taken the decision, under delegated powers, to recruit community responders from the local West Yorkshire community. Adverts had been placed and expressions of interest had been received in the two roles on offer – Community Response Officers (CRO's) and Driver / Pump operators.

Members were advised that an initial paper sift was being done and it was hoped that individuals would be taken through at this stage to the medical and physical assessment / interview process during w/c 6 August. The first cohort (hopefully totalling 24 CRO's and 10 drivers) would commence a 3-week intensive training course w/c 12 August with a second, similar-sized cohort, being trained from early September.

In response to a Member's question, it was reported that all recent retirees had been contacted and it was hoped that some of these would act as cover personnel following brief update training as required.

Payment would be made on a zero-hour contract basis to successful CRO's and drivers for training and call-out duties. They would also have the entitlement to join the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

RESOLVED

That the Chief Fire Officer submits a formal report to Members once the result of the ballot for strike action is known at the end of August to cover all contingency planning arrangements.

7 Catering Provision – Training Centre

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

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Corporate Resources which sought Members' approval for the discontinuation of the catering provision at Training Centre following the expiry of the current contract with Sodexo on 26 October 2013.

It was reported that the significant changes in service requirement, due to the cessation of recruit training etc, had made the contract unsustainable. The current contract would expire on 26 October 2013 and it was proposed not to re-tender for a contract of this type but rather to undertake a full review of the catering requirements prior to any decision about future catering provision.

Detail of the financial implications of the contract was outlined in the report now submitted.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the catering contract with Sodexo be discontinued with effect from 26 October 2013; and
- (ii) That results of the catering review into future provision be submitted for consideration by Members as appropriate.

Chair