

WEST YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD AT FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS, BIRKENSHAW,
ON FRIDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2011**

Present : Councillors D Ridgway (in the chair), C Bampton-Smith, V Binney, R Brown, A Castle, J Cole, J Dodds, R Grahame, D Hall, S Hamilton, P Harrand, D Hopkins, J Hughes, A Hussain, J Illingworth, M Khan, A McKenna, G Thornton, C Townsley and A Wallis

Apologies: Councillors T Austin and B Smith

23 ADMISSION OF THE PUBLIC

The meeting determined that there were no items which necessitated the exclusion of the public.

24 URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Grahame declared a personal and non-prejudicial in agenda item no. 8, Min no. 7 – Minutes of the last meeting, in respect of the discussions and resolution relating to the Fire Safety (Protection of Tenants) Bill.

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

26 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED

That, subject to typographical amendments at Min nos 3 and 8 e), the Minutes of the meeting held on 24 June 2011 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

27 MINUTES OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Human Resources Committee at a meeting held on 1 July 2011 be received.

28 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Finance and Resources Committee at a meeting held on 8 July 2011 be received.

29 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Community Safety Committee at a meeting held on 22 July 2011 be received.

30 MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Executive Committee at a meeting held on 1 August 2011 be received.

31 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - MINUTES

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Minutes of the Fire Commission at a meeting held on 20 June 2011 be received;
- (ii) That the Minutes of the Safer and Stronger Communities Programme Board at a meeting held on 11 July 2011 be received and that Members highlight the concerns of the Board to their respective District Councils in respect of the impact of metal theft; and
- (iii) That the Minutes of the Fire Services Management Committee at a meeting held on 18 July 2011 be received and a letter of thanks be forwarded to Councillor Fred Walker following his recent resignation in respect of the work and achievements he had been responsible for within the Fire Service as a whole and for Metropolitan Fire Authorities in particular.

32 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

The Senior Corporate Resources Manager submitted a report which outlined the activities of the Brigade in the areas of operations and technical matters for the

period 1 April 2011 to 31 July 2011.

Members commented specifically on the impact on the Fire Service of the recent riots and disturbances in August and also remarked upon the excellent results in respect of completed home fire safety checks which supported the Authority's Integrated Risk Management Planning process.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the report be noted; and
- (ii) That a report be submitted to the next meeting detailing the impact of the August disturbances on the work of the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

33 REVISED CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2011 / 12

Members considered a report of the Director of Corporate Resources which invited consideration of a revised calendar of meetings for 2011 / 12.

The Calendar, originally agreed in April 2011, did not reflect the addition of the new Community Safety committee as approved at the Annual Meeting of the Authority in June 2011. Members were further advised that, due to the changes in the terms of reference for the Finance and Resources Committee and new terms for the Community Safety Committee, it was proposed that the committee cycle move to a quarterly basis for all standing committees.

RESOLVED

That the revised programme of meetings for 2011 / 12 be approved.

34 INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRMP) – CONSULTATION FEEDBACK – JUNE PROPOSALS

The Director of Operations submitted a report which presented the outcomes of the internal consultation and negotiation process in relation to five specific Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) proposals reported to the June meeting of the Authority as follows;

- Stanningley Fire Station – dual crewing
- Castleford Fire Station – day crewing close call
- Rothwell Fire Station – day crewing close call
- Bradford Fire Station – combined aerial rescue pump (CARP)
- Huddersfield Fire Station – combined aerial rescue pump (CARP)

Internal consultation and negotiation had taken place on the proposals with West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service employees and representative bodies. Detail of the specific responses and comments were included in the report now submitted and it was reported that those areas of concern raised by the

stakeholders would not pose a significant threat to the implementation of the proposals and were not considered insurmountable.

It was reported that, if fully implemented, the proposals would deliver ongoing revenue savings of £1.8m per annum with an additional £1.9m capital investment required over the next two years

RESOLVED

- (i) That the outcome of internal consultation process be noted;
- (ii) That the following Integrated Risk Management Plan proposals be approved for implementation;
 - Dual crewing of a fire appliance at Stanningley and the removal of 12 posts by way of natural wastage
 - Introduction of the Day Crewing Close Call duty system at Castleford and removal of 11 posts by way of natural wastage
 - Introduction of the Day Crewing Close Call duty system at Rothwell and removal of 11 posts by way of natural wastage
 - Provision of Bradford Station with a Combined Aerial Rescue Pump (CARP) and the removal of 12 posts by way of natural wastage, and
 - Provision of Huddersfield Station with a Combined Aerial Rescue Pump (CARP) and the removal of 12 posts by way of natural wastage;and
- (iii) That the capital investment required to deliver the proposals at (ii) above be approved.

35 INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN (IRMP) – NEW PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTATION

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Operations which presented a range of proposals as part of the Integrated Risk Management Planning (IRMP) process for inclusion in the 2012 / 13 Action Plan.

In response to the difficult challenges faced by the Authority in meeting its objectives whilst delivering significant efficiencies over the next few years and in the light of recent major successes in risk reduction, activity and demand, seven proposals with supporting business cases had been drafted for consultation related to the following station areas;

- Moortown
- Silsden and Keighley
- South Elmsall and Hemsworth
- Rawdon and Otley
- Brighouse and Elland
- Batley and Dewsbury
- Gipton and Stanks

Members were advised that consultation on the proposals would take place over the required 12-week period when a further report would be submitted to the December meeting of the Authority.

It was anticipated that, if fully implemented, the proposals would generate ongoing revenue savings of £4.134m per year with an additional capital investment of £14.45m over four years.

The proposals represented a significant reduction in firefighter posts whilst maintaining appropriate levels of emergency response and would avoid the need for wholetime compulsory redundancies by aligning the introduction of changes to the retirement profile of the Brigade.

RESOLVED

- (i) That approval be given to full consultation on the following proposals;
- the introduction of a Fire Response Unit and Resilience Pump at Moortown to replace the 2nd fire appliance and the removal of up to 12 full-time posts by way of planned retirements
 - the removal of the 2nd fire appliance at Silsden and its transfer to Keighley as a Resilience Pump and the removal of 5 retained duty system posts from the establishment at Silsden
 - the construction of a new fire station to replace South Elmsall fire station with the removal of 11 full-time posts from the establishment by way of planned retirements and the closure of Hemsworth fire station with the removal of 12 retained duty system posts
 - the construction of a new fire station to replace Rawdon fire station with the removal of 11 full-time posts from the establishment by way of planned retirements and the closure of Otley fire station with the removal of 12 retained duty system posts
 - the construction of a new fire station to replace Brighouse and Elland fire stations and removal of 24 full-time posts from the establishment by way of planned retirements

- the construction of a new fire station to replace Batley and Dewsbury fire stations and removal of 24 full-time posts from the establishment by way of planned retirements
- the construction of a new fire station to replace Gipton and Stanks fire stations and removal of 24 full-time posts from the establishment by way of planned retirements

and;

- (ii) That the outcomes of the full consultation be reported back to West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority in December 2011.

36 YOUTH PARTNERSHIP SCHEME – PRESENTATION

Representatives of the Kirklees Road Safety Youth Partnership Scheme attended the meeting to advise Members of the work that had been done, in partnership with other agencies, within the District to reduce the incidence of Road Traffic Collisions.

Members were advised that the work had been very well received and it was hoped that similarly enthusiastic schemes could be established across the county.

It was reported that, since April 2011, road traffic collisions in Kirklees had reduced by 80% which must have been in some way due to the work undertaken by the young people within the community.

RESOLVED

That representatives of the scheme be invited to a future meeting of the Authority to report on its successes and impact on the reduction of road traffic collisions.

Chair