

WEST YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD AT FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS, BIRKENSHAW,
ON FRIDAY 15 APRIL 2011**

Present : Councillors D Ridgway (in the chair), M Akhtar, T Austin, V Binney, P Booth, D Gray, P Harrand, J Illingworth, M Jamil, J Jarosz, M Khan, A Manifold, R Pryke, B Smith and G Thornton

Apologies: Councillors A Castle, D Firth, A Hussain, A McKenna, D O'Neill and C Townsley

96 ADMISSION OF THE PUBLIC

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

97 URGENT ITEM

There were no urgent items.

98 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

99 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 February 2011 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

100 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Finance and Resources Committee at a meeting held on 1 April 2011 be received.

101 MINUTES OF THE PERSONNEL AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Personnel and Training Committee at a meeting held on 8 April 2011 be received.

102 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - MINUTES

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Minutes of the Fire Services Management Committee at meetings held on 24 January and 7 March 2011 be received; and
- (ii) That the Minutes of the Fire Services Commission at a meeting held on 11 February 2011 be received.

103 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2011 / 12

Members considered a report of the Director of Corporate Resources which sought approval for a programme of Authority and committee meetings for 2011 / 2012.

RESOLVED

That the programme of meetings 2011 / 2012 be approved as follows;

FRIDAY PERSONNEL & TRAINING COMMITTEE	FRIDAY FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE	FRIDAY AUDIT COMMITTEE (quarterly)	FRIDAY AUTHORITY (24 June 2011)
1 July 2011	8 July 2011	30 Sept 2011	9 September 2011
23 Sept 2011	16 Sept 2011		16 December 2011
11 November 2011	18 Nov 2011	3 February 2012	16 February 2012 (Thursday)
27 January 2012	20 Jan 2012	20 April 2012	27 April 2012
30 March 2012	13 April 2012	28 June 2012 (Thurs)	29 June 2012 (AGM)

104 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 2010 to 28 March 2011.

Members commented on the relevancy of some targets and were advised that some of these had been re-assessed in the light of historical trends which would be reflected in future Service Planning processes.

Concern was also expressed at the lack of comparative information from other Metropolitan Fire and Rescue Authorities. It was reported that this would be addressed when the new format for presenting the performance management figures was introduced in time for the Annual meeting 2011.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

105 LOCALISM BILL

Members considered a report of the Director of Corporate Resources which advised of the proposals in the pending Localism Bill and its implications for the Authority.

It was reported that the Bill covered the following issues;

- General power of competence – with an equivalent power for Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRA) in respect of their core functions
- Commercial activities
- Charging (not for FRA core functions)
- Member conduct
- Mutual insurance
- Pay accountability
- Council Tax referendum / precepting arrangements
- Community right to challenge – with the likelihood that this would be extended to FRA's

RESOLVED

- (i) That, subject to the referral of the provisions relating the conduct of members to Standards Committee for consideration, the report be noted;
- (ii) That any recommendations made by the Standards Committee in respect of (i) above, be submitted to the next meeting of the Authority; and
- (iii) That the Authority submits a response to the Communities and Local Government (CLG) consultation in respect of the Community Right to Challenge advising that, due to a potentially greater risk of front-line service diminution, this should not be made applicable to Fire and Rescue Authorities.

106 WEST YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE CALDERDALE DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE – PARTNERSHIP WITH HALIFAX BOXING CLUB

Members received a presentation about the establishment of the partnership in Calderdale district and the positive impact it had had over its 12-month operating period.

It was reported that the partnership offered great access for educational purposes and this was being put to use in the following areas;

- To promote safer communities by reducing re-offending
- To introduce a road safety strategy

Early indications had shown that the partnership was proving successful, there had been a reduction in violence towards Fire Service personnel by 20% and the Arson Task Force was also making a positive contribution to the Club. Performance would continue to be monitored and reported back to Members in April 2012.

Chair