



# Minutes

## Executive Committee

---

Date: 03 August 2020

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Birkenshaw

---

Present: Councillor D O'Donovan (in the chair), R Grahame, P Harrand, K Renshaw (as substitute for Councillor S Tulley) and A Tait

In Attendance: None

Apologies: Councillors J Sunderland and S Tulley

---

### 1 Minutes of the last meeting

#### RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 17 June 2020 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

### 2 Matters arising

None.

### 3 Urgent items

None.

### 4 Admission of the public

There were no items which required the exclusion of the public and press.

## **5 Declarations of interest**

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

## **6 Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme – Assurance partner**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Service Support which updated the Committee on the decision to award West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) assurance partner status for the Emergency Services Mobile Communication programme (ESMCP).

It was reported that the decision had been relayed to the Chief Fire Officer on 21 July 2020 and the award of the status would bring extra funding of £345k to West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service to assist transition to the mobilisation phase of the project. This funding was in addition to the £1.5m already provided to Yorkshire and Humber Fire and Rescue Services for delivery of the new programme to replace Airwave. The new programme would allow greater interoperability between all emergency services across the country and would impact on 50,000 vehicles, 200 control rooms and 115 aircraft.

Members were advised that West Yorkshire was only one of five emergency services nationally to be awarded the status of assurance partner and it was reported that the status would also provide access at an early stage to technical experts already working on the programme.

To fulfil the role of assurance partner, it was reported that 4 fixed term temporary 18-month appointments would be required in addition to the extension of an existing temporary post on the ICT service desk to January 2021 to support the infrastructure during the validation period. The posts would be fully funded from the monies awarded by the programme.

It was reported that the programme was intended to be fully implemented nationally by 2024 and the business case would be signed off in February 2021.

Members raised the following specific issues;

- Pride in West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service as being one of five emergency services to be invited to be an assurance partner
- Possible additional ongoing costs after full implementation
- Possible slippage of the scheme
- Impact on Tri-Service collaboration arrangements
- Transition arrangements from Airwave to the ESN (Emergency Services Network), and
- Importance of recruitment of the best available technical expertise

### **RESOLVED**

- a) That the report be noted,
- b) That approval be given to the creation of four additional temporary post for 18 months subject to a full job evaluation, and

- c) That the temporary post of Service Desk support officer be extended for a further six-month period as detailed in the report now submitted.

Chair