



Minutes

Executive Committee

Date: 26 April 2019

Time: 11.30 am

Venue: Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Birkenshaw

Present: Councillor J Hughes (in the Chair), T Austin, J Dodds, R Grahame and P Harrand

In Attendance: None

Apologies: Councillor J Sunderland

15 Announcements – retirement of Councillor Judith Hughes

As it was likely to be the final Authority meeting attended by the Chair prior to her retirement on 7 May 2019, the Chief Executive and Chief Fire Officer took the opportunity to make a presentation and all those present at the meeting applauded her contribution both as Member, Vice chair and Chair during her 8 years' service to West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority.

16 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 4 December 2018 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

17 Urgent items

Continuing Professional Development payments

The Chair agreed that the item be taken as an urgent item on the grounds that it required a decision which would not admit of delay due to the need to progress and inform Command Leadership and Management discussions going forward (Min no. 20 refers).

Use of official social media platforms

The Chair agreed that the item be taken as an exempt urgent item on the grounds that it required a decision which would not admit of delay (Min no. 25 refers).

18 Admission of the public

RESOLVED

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the items 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 were present during these items, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of the descriptions specified.

AGENDA ITEM NO.	TITLE OF REPORT	MINUTE NUMBER (to be added)	Description of exempt information by reference to the paragraph number in Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972
E7	Efficiency Options for financial scenarios post-2020	23	Paragraphs 3 and 4 – relating to financial or business affairs & consultations and negotiations
E8	Head of Corporate Communications	25	Paragraph 1 – relating to an individual
E9	Central Staffing establishment	24	Paragraph 1 – relating to an individual
Urgent item	Use of social media platforms	26	Paragraph 1 – relating to an individual

19 Declarations of interest

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

20 West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service collaboration update

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Service Support which updated Members of current and future collaboration initiatives as discussed at the Strategic Collaboration Board meeting with West Yorkshire Police, Yorkshire Ambulance Service and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner held on 14 February 2019.

It was reported that work continued on the following initiatives;

- Driver training
- Emergency planning
- Gaining entry
- Community safety

and that further scoping work on the following areas would be carried out to identify potential for both financial and operational benefits for all three services;

- Estates
- Drones
- Post-incident care
- Fuel
- Training

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

21 Continuing Professional Development payments

Members received a report of the Director of Service Support which sought approval for a change in policy for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) payments.

Subsequent upon discussions with the representative bodies, it was reported that the current policy acted as a barrier for those who wished to seek promotion within the Fire Service.

RESOLVED

That the current Continuing Professional Development (CPD) policy be amended and that payments be made to staff in development and temporary roles.

(This item was considered as an urgent item which was not available at the time of despatch of papers but which required consideration with a view to informing the Command Leadership and Management discussions).

22 Assistant Chief Fire Officer recruitment

The Chief Executive and Chief Fire Officer submitted a report which sought approval for a timeline associated with the recruitment to the Assistant Chief Fire Officer's position which would

be become vacant subsequent upon the retirement of the current postholder on 20 September 2019.

RESOLVED

That the recruitment timeline be approved as detailed in the report now submitted.

23 Efficiency options for financial scenarios post-2020

(This item was considered exempt information under Schedule 12A (3 & 4) of the Local Government Act 1972 – financial or business affairs and information relating to consultation and negotiation)

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Service Support which advised of 13 options to address possible financial scenarios in the medium-term financial plan post-2020 taking into account both community risk and the workforce plan.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

24 Central Staffing establishment

(This item was considered exempt information under Schedule 12A (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 – relating to an individual)

Members considered a report of the Chief Employment Services Officer which sought approval for changes to the establishment of the Central Staffing team with effect from 31 December 2019.

It was proposed that, consequent upon the implementation of the new rostering solution, changes be made to the establishment of the Central Staffing team which would involve;

- the removal of one supervisor post (to be achieved by a competitive appointment process and associated offer of redeployment to the unsuccessful candidate)
- the removal of the administrator post (to be achieved through voluntary redundancy)

It was reported that the changes to the establishment of the Central Staffing team would generate savings of £167,802 in a full financial year and would not impact on any collective agreement.

RESOLVED

That the changes to the establishment of the Central Staffing team be approved with effect from 31 December 2019 through the reduction of one supervisor post and voluntary redundancy from the administrator post.

25 Head of Communications

(This item was considered exempt information under Schedule 12A (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 – relating to an individual)

The Chief Executive and Chief Fire Officer submitted a report which sought approval for the permanent employment of the current Head of Communications who had been appointed on a two-year temporary contract approved by this Committee in May 2017 subsequent upon the Local Government Association Peer Review of Communications in December 2016.

RESOLVED

- a) That the post of Head of Communications be added to the establishment as a permanent post, and
- b) That the current postholder be appointed to the permanent position at a) above for the reasons detailed in the report now submitted.

26 Use of official social media platforms

(This item was considered exempt information under Schedule 12A (1) of the Local Government Act 1972 – relating to an individual)

The Committee gave consideration to issues arising out of a publication by an Officer using an official social media platform.

RESOLVED

That the Committee authorises the Chair to write on its behalf to the Officer concerned expressing concerns over the content of the publication and a desire that there should not be any repeat of such a publication in future.

(This item was taken as an urgent item as it required consideration as a matter of urgency).

Chair