



Minutes

Full Authority

Date: 17 December 2021

Time: 10:30

Venue: Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Birkenshaw

Present: Councillor S Tulley (Chair), G Almas, C Anderson, D Hall, A Hutchison, J Illingworth, D Kirton, M Midgley, N Mohammed, M Pollard, S Press, K Renshaw, I Sanders, F Shaheen and J Sunderland

In Attendance: None

Apologies: Councillors D O'Donovan, C Burke, R Downes, S Nazir, M Pervaiz, P Harrand, L Whitehouse

34. Chair's announcements

Diversity and Inclusion Award Ceremony

Unfortunately, the award ceremony due to follow the committee has been cancelled due to the current COVID situation.

Blue Light Driving Experience

As part of the Member development programme, 4 Councillors attended a Blue Light Experience following the meeting.

Settlement

A quick update was given by the Chief Finance and Procurement Officer on the settlement released by DLUHC on 15 December 2021.

35. Admission of the Public

The meeting determined that there were no items which required the exclusion of the public and press.

36. Urgent items

None

37. Declarations of Interest

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

38. Minutes of the last meeting held on 17 September 2021

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 17 September 2021 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

39. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the previous Minutes.

40. Minutes of Committees held since 17 September 2021 and of other relevant Outside Bodies

Members requested clarification on the reasons the Year End Accounts were not available for the Audit Committee, and it was confirmed they will be presented at the Audit Committee scheduled for January 2022 and the Value for Money Report will be presented to the Audit Committee schedule for April 2022. Members will be fully briefed by the Chief Finance and Procurement Officer as soon as the accounts are available and prior to the Audit Committee.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of Committees and other relevant outside bodies as circulated be received.

41. Local Pension Board Proposed Amendment to Terms of Reference

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report seeking approval for the amendment of the Terms of Reference for the Local Pension Board to extend the term of office to 2 years.

RESOLVED

- a) That the Terms of Reference be updated to reflect the new term of office
- b) That the members appointed in 2021 have their appointments extended to 30 June 2023.

42. Performance Management report 1 April – 30 September 2021

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Service Delivery which advised of the Authority's performance against key performance indicators for the period 1 April 2021 – 30 September 2021. Updated figures for the period to date were presented at the meeting. The report showed a vast improvement in all areas.

Members requested that the postcode of each incident be added to the daily incident report and requested clarification of the following:

- Electrical and Delta Romeo related incidents
- Cause Analysis
- Right of Entry
- False Alarms
- Fire-Related Injuries
- Incidents at Community Centres
- Compliments and Complaints

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

43. Programme of Change

The Director of Service Support submitted a report which detailed progress made in relation to the Programme of Change 2021 – 22. The projects were not ranked in order of priority but remain flexible to meet the demands of each relevant department.

It was confirmed that the completed projects had been removed from the portfolio and two new Programmes had been added – the Fire Standards Programme and the FSHQ Programme.

It was noted that only one Programme of Change was overdue and that was due to the volume of work required to migrate documents over to SharePoint 16 but the benefits of doing this were noted. Only one Programme was behind schedule, and this was because of delays with procurement but it had recently moved to the testing stage and would be back on track in the next reporting period.

Members asked for further information on the timeline for the Performance Management Programme and it was noted that this is a long term project because of the many different IT systems that need to be configured.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

44. Bonfire Review

The Deputy Chief Fire Officer submitted a report to inform members of the events leading up to and throughout the bonfire period. It was reported that most Local Authority Events did not take place due to the ongoing impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, however the service has adapted and introduced new ways of working with partners and introduced a multi-agency prevention strategy. There was a significant decrease of incident attendance; from 399 in 2020 to 253 in 2021. This was due to the 999 call challenge in fire control, the use of fire cars and the fire tactical command structure which allowed a risk-based approach to attending secondary fires.

Attacks on Firefighters remained the same as in 2020 (10 attacks) and there were no firefighter injuries.

It was reported that moving forward WYFRS will be working with WYP and following up all logged incidents of attacks on firefighters using the Criminal Justice System.

Members thanked the service for their hard work in the period up to and including the bonfire period and requested further information relating to:

- Prosecutions following attacks on firefighters
- Effectiveness of fire cars in all districts
- The ongoing need for a year round multi-agency strategy

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

45. Appointment of External Auditors

Members considered a report by the Chief Finance and Procurement Officer informing members of the process relating to the appointment of the external auditor as the current contract will be coming to an end on 31 March 2023. The report summarised the options available which were:

Option 1 – procurement via PSAA

Option 2 – make a standalone appointment

Option 3 – set up a Joint Auditor Panel/local joint procurement arrangement.

RESOLVED

That the Authority take option 1 - procurement via PSAA

46. Proposed Amendment to Calendar of Meetings 2021 – 22

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report seeking approval for the amendment of the date of the Local Pension Board in January 2022 for the reasons as detailed in the report now submitted.

RESOLVED

That the date of the next meeting of the Local Pension Board be amended to 19 January 2022.

Chair