West Yorkshire
Fire & Rescue Authority

Minutes

Finance and Resources Committee

Date: 16 October 2026

Time: 10:30

Venue: FSHQ

Present:

Cllr Davies (in the Chair), Cllrs Booth, Downes (as sub for Cllr Dodds) Garvani, Greaves, McInnes, Parnham and Thewlis (as substitute for Cllr Hodgson).

Apologies:

Cllrs Crashley, Dodds, Dresser and Hodgson

10.Minutes of meeting held on 17 July 2026

Resolved
That the Minutes of the last meeting held on 17 July 2026 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

11.Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

12.Urgent items

There were no urgent items

13.Admission of the public

There were no items requiring the exclusion of the public

14.Declarations of interest

There were no disclosures of disposable pecuniary interests.

15.Quarterly Financial Review

The Director of Finance and Procurement presented a report detailing the quarterly review of the financial performance of the Authority for the first 6 months of the current financial year

Members challenged the report author to provide further information on the following:

- The insurance claim covering the loss of a Welfare Vehicle at a Road Traffic Collision (RTC)
- The increasing costs to finance the Annual WYFRS Recognition Awards Ceremony
- The capital financing costs of £95k for 4 new capital schemes which are not funded through revenue and the annual provision made for the purchase of property.
- A brief explanation of the capital financing methods used by WYFRS
- The cost pressures relating to the increase in wildfires and planning for the future impact of climate change, including building reserves.
- The importance of governance of the capital plan by the Members of Finance and Resources Committee
- The small size of The Estates Team which means contractors are used for all processes, including surveys / designs etc.
- Members requested that a detailed paper on the use of solar panels across the WYFRS estate is brought to a future committee.

Resolved
That the report be noted.

16. Reserves Strategy

Members received a report from The Director of Finance and Procurement seeking approval for the Reserve Strategy 2026/27 to 2030/31.

Resolved
a) That the report be noted
b) That the Reserve Strategy 2026/27 to 2030/31 is approved.

17. Fairweather Green Fire Station Refurbishment

The Director of Service Support presented a report seeking approval for an additional capital allocation of £500,000 for the Fairweather Green Station Refurbishment Project.

Members challenged the report author on the original costings and the lessons learnt from the substantial increase in budget requested.

Resolved
That the additional capital allocation of £500,000 is approved, making the total overall project budget £1.7M.

18. Huddersfield Fire Station Redevelopment

The Director of Service Support presented a report seeking approval for an additional £3million capital funding to enable the redevelopment programme of Huddersfield Fire Station to progress.

Members requested and were given further information and background on the following points:

- The consideration given to either rebuild or refurbish the station. Members requested sight of the completed feasibility studies.
- The option to sell the building due to its prime location and move to alternative premises.
- The ideal location and size of the entire site and the building and it's use as a district office
- The possible collaboration with other emergency services in the area
- The life expectancy of a new build as compared to a refurbished property
- Implementing the lessons learnt from the recent refurbishment of Fairweather Green Station and the increased costs

Resolved
That the additional £3 million for the project be approved as a capital bid for 2027/28

19. Appliance Donations to Ukraine

The Director of Service Support presented a report seeking approval for 3 fire appliances to be donated to the Ukraine State Emergency Services (SES).

Members challenged the report author to confirm this is common practice among Fire and Rescue Services across the country and provide details of other appliances and equipment already donated, the costs involved in transport, which are covered by FireAid, a charitable organisation and the approximate amount lost by not selling the appliances at auction.

Members noted the impact of the war on Fire and Rescue Services that had already been seen in the Ukraine including the loss of 1792 fire appliances, 481 stations, numerous Firefighters and firefighting equipment.

Resolved
That 3 fire appliances are donated to the Ukraine State Emergency Services (SES)

Chair