



# Minutes

## Full Authority

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Date: 14 December 2018

Time: 10.30 am

Venue: Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Birkenshaw

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Present: Councillor J Hughes (Chair), Anderson, Austin, Dodds, Downes, Fenton-Glynn, Grahame, Harrand, Holmes, Hunt, Lennox, O'Donovan, Peart, Pervaiz, Pillai, Pollard, Renshaw, Rowley, Sunderland, Tait and Wenham

In Attendance: None

Apologies: Councillor G Almas

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### **46 Admission of the public**

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

### **47 Urgent items**

None.

### **48 Declarations of interest**

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

### **49 Minutes of the last meeting**

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the Authority at a meeting held on 21 September 2018 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

## **50 Minutes of the Human Resources Committee**

### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the Human Resources Committee at a meeting held on 5 October 2018 be noted.

## **51 Minutes of the Local Pension Board**

### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the Local Pension Board at a meeting held on 5 October 2018 be noted.

## **52 Minutes of the Finance and Resources Committee**

### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the Finance and Resources Committee at a meeting held on 12 October 2018 be noted.

## **53 Minutes of the Audit Committee**

### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the Audit Committee at a meeting held on 19 October 2018 be noted.

## **54 Minutes of the Community Safety Committee**

### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the Community Safety Committee at a meeting held on 26 October 2018 be noted.

## **55 Minutes of the Executive Committee**

### **RESOLVED**

That the Minutes of the Executive Committee at a meeting held on 4 December 2018 be noted.

## **56 Minutes of the Local Government Association**

### **RESOLVED**

- a) That the Minutes of the Local Government Association Fire Services Management Committee at a meeting held on 20 September 2018 be received; and
- b) That the Minutes of the Local Government Association Fire Service Commission at meetings held on 21 May (circulated under separate cover) and 12 October 2018 be received.

## **57 Performance Management report**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Legal and Governance Officer which advised of the Authority's performance against key performance indicators for the period 1 April to 30 September 2018.

This report formed part of the revised reporting arrangements approved at the 21 September meeting of the Authority and, as such, had been initially circulated to Members on 1 November 2018.

Members commented specifically on the following issues;

- Causes for non-actuation of working smoke alarms
- Effect on firefighters in cases of delayed response by relevant partners to risk referrals where householder is subsequently involved in a fatal fire
- Risk referral systems follow-up arrangements
- Firefighter mental health monitoring and management of post-traumatic stress after major incidents
- Success of interventions in reducing attacks on firefighters (particularly in Bradford)
- Potential risks associated with lone-households where individuals were in bed for protracted periods of time eg. smoking materials, faulty electric blankets

### **RESOLVED**

- a) That the report be noted and;
- b) That, if practicable, the incidence of arson be included in the FireControl daily reports to Members.

## **58 Service Plan action plan 2018 - 19 – update**

The Chief Legal and Governance Officer submitted a report which advised of the progress to date on the Service Plan Action Plan 2018 – 19.

### **RESOLVED**

That the report be noted.

## **59 Bonfire Review 2018**

Members considered a report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer and Director of Service Delivery which advised of the events leading up to and throughout the four-day bonfire period 2018.

It was reported that there had been a successful reduction of 70% in the number of firefighter attacks which it was hoped to be due, in some part, to the pre-planning with partner agencies as detailed in the report now submitted, including some nationwide coverage of a fireworks attack in Fairweather Green as part of a national publicity campaign together with a well prepared and briefed response plan which included the use of West Yorkshire Police branded fire cars.

Members were advised that 22% more incidents had been attended in 2018 which was likely to have been due to the bonfire period being extended by one day when compared with 2017.

In response to the issues raised in the Bonfire review, Members sought further information and commented on the following;

- Excellent collaborative support and use of local intelligence from the communities and West Yorkshire Police

- Success of local and national media campaigns
- Increased mobilisation of fire cars, and
- Sale of fireworks in pop-up venues and effect of possible deterrents / legal restrictions

## **RESOLVED**

That the report be noted.

## **60 Customer Service Excellence Assessment 2018**

The Chief Legal and Governance Officer submitted a report which provided Members with an update on the attainment of the Customer Service Excellence full compliance standard (including an improved 17 Compliance plus) against all 57 elements of the award.

## **RESOLVED**

That the attainment of the Customer Service Excellence standard with full compliance and compliance plus be noted.

## **61 Improving flexibilities and changing responsibilities at Fire Stations – consultation response**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Service Support which presented the outcome of the recent eight-week internal consultation exercise in relation to the proposals for Improving flexibilities and changing responsibilities at Fire Stations.

It was reported that the consultation had been undertaken following formal approval at the 21 September 2018 meeting of the Full Authority (Min no. 45 refers). The consultation concluded on 16 November 2018 leading to amended proposals (Min no. 62 refers).

Specific comment, and subsequently additional consideration had been given to the following issues during the consultation period;

- Requirement for Watch Managers to respond in a blue light vehicle
- Possible displacement of Watch Managers following a reduction in establishment by 28 posts
- Reduction of crewing on appliances from 5 to 4
- Role and number of Crew Managers
- Financial remuneration
- Workloads for Watch and Crew Managers

## **RESOLVED**

That the consultation response be noted and be used to inform the decision on the implementation of the Improving flexibilities and changing responsibilities proposals.

## **62 Improving flexibilities and changing responsibilities at Fire Stations – proposals**

Members received a report of the Director of Service Support which presented proposals to improve flexibility and change responsibilities at Fire Stations having had regard to the results of the consultation process (Min no. 61 refers).

The project had been developed in response to the continuing financial challenges which faced the Authority and it was reported that, if a balanced budget were to be achieved by April 2020, additional savings of £2.4m had to be achieved. The proposals under consideration followed Integrated Risk Management Plans 2 – 4 and protected existing levels of fire cover together with improved firefighter safety across West Yorkshire.

It was reported that the proposals detailed as an annex to the report now submitted would achieve total savings of £1.7m (an additional £0.5m above the previously identified medium term financial plan savings) and would reduce the establishment to 900 by the end of third year of implementation.

## **RESOLVED**

That approval be given to the implementation of the Improving Flexibilities and Changing Responsibilities proposals 2019 – 22 as detailed in the annex to the report now submitted subject to;

- a) continued close working with the Fire Authority Members and the representative bodies;
- b) assurances that no appliance would be mobilised with fewer than 3 firefighters; and
- c) careful consideration being given to the lone-working element which may arise from the implementation of the proposals.

Chair