



Minutes

Full Authority

Date: 16 December 2022

Time: 10:30

Venue: Dewsbury Town Hall

Present: Cllrs O'Donovan (in the chair), Almas, Anderson, Downes, Farmer, Fazal, Hall, Hussain, Illingworth, Keith, Midgley, Mohammed, Pervaiz, Pollard, Renshaw, Tulley and Wood

In Attendance:

Apologies: Cllrs Ahmed, Harrand, Kirton and Shaheen

40 Chair's announcements

Members and Officers stood in silence to mark the passing of FF Darren Abrams and former Member Bryan Smith. FF Abrams had been with the service for 20 years, he was a part of Red Watch at Hunslet Fire Station. Councillor Smith was a Member of the Authority on three separate occasions between 1990 and 2018 and served as the Chair of Finance and Resources, Human Resources and Community Safety Committee.

41 Admission of the public

There were no items that required to exclusion of the press and public

42 Urgent items

There were no urgent items

43 Declarations of interest

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

44 Minutes of meeting held on 23 September 2022

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2022 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

45 Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes

46 Minutes of Committees held since 23 September 2022 and of other relevant Outside Bodies

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of Committees and other relevant outside bodies as circulated be received and that it be noted that a member stated in regard to Minute 19 from the HR Committee held on 7 October 2022 that he is aware not all staff are happy with the removal of the Operational Resource Pool Duty System.

47 Performance Management Report

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Corporate Services which advised of the Authority's performance against key performance indicators for the period 1 April 2022 – 30 September 2022.

A copy of the latest figures up to 15 December 2022 was presented at the meeting for Members' information.

In response to a question regarding incidents where there were issues with smoke alarms, members were advised that following all fires residents are provided with a handover document which covers next steps and includes the requirement to install working smoke alarms.

It was confirmed that a national campaign regarding fire safety during the current cost of living crisis was due to start imminently but that although single incidents were coming through the crisis is not reflected in the report statistics.

Members were assured that collaborative work with other bodies, including the police (anti-social behaviour, attacks on fire fighters, arson), environmental agencies (recycling sites and fly tipping), trading standards (electrical heating appliances) was ongoing and members were advised that following the recent fatalities on ice, social and local media are being used to push the safety message.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

48 Appointment of Independent Person of the Audit Committee

Members received a report of the Director of Corporate Services recommending the appointment of Paul Burnham as the Independent Member of the Audit Committee following approval of the post at the Full Authority Committee held on 23 September 2022 and a successful interview.

RESOLVED

That subject to the necessary checks and references, Paul Burnham be appointed as Independent Member of the Audit Committee for a term of 2 years from 1 January 2023.

49 His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS)

Members received a presentation from the Manager of the Service Improvement and Assurance Team giving an overview of the recent HMICFRS inspection.

Members were pleased to note that all tranches in round 2 achieved a rating of “good”. They were assured that WYFRS will always strive to be the best and work towards achieving outstanding in all areas.

Regarding the 2 areas which achieved a rating of “requires improvement” within the effectiveness tranche; *preventing fires and other risks* and *protecting the public through fire regulation*, it was explained that there is an action plan to address these but that there is currently no national guidance in place for the Risk Based Inspection Programme. This is expected imminently and members of staff from WYFRS sit on the national working group.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

50 Redevelopment of FSHQ

Members were given an overview by the Director of Service Support of the progress made on the redevelopment of the FSHQ site.

51 Bonfire Night 2022 Review

Members were given an overview by the Deputy Chief Fire Officer of the bonfire night period 2022.

Chair