

SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 12 FEBRUARY 2018 AT SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE HQ

42. PRESENT:

Councillor	Left	Authority
D T Davies (Chair)		Caerphilly
S Bradwick (Deputy Chair)		Rhondda Cynon Taf
D Ali		Cardiff
R Crowley		Vale of Glamorgan
C Elsbury		Caerphilly
S Evans		Torfaen
K Gibbs		Merthyr Tydfil
J Harries		Rhondda Cynon Taf
K McCaffer		Vale of Glamorgan
D Naughton		Cardiff
A Roberts		Rhondda Cynon Taf
A Slade		Torfaen
V Smith		Monmouthshire
D White		Bridgend
P Wong		Cardiff

APOLOGIES:

L Brown	Monmouthshire
A Hussey	Caerphilly
H Joyce	Cardiff
M Phillips	Cardiff
C Smith	Bridgend
G Thomas	Blaenau Gwent
H Thomas	Newport

ABSENT:

K Critchley	Newport
S Pickering	Rhondda Cynon Taf

OFFICERS PRESENT:

CFO H Jakeway; Mr C Powell – Deputy Monitoring Officer; ACFO A Thomas – Director of Service Delivery; ACFO R Prendergast – Director of Technical Services; A/ACO M Malson – Director of People Services; Mr G Thomas – Head of Finance & Procurement; AM A Kibblewhite – Head of Risk Reduction; Mrs S Watkins – Head of Service Performance & Communications; GM C Hadfield – Head of Business Fire Safety.

43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Each Member declared a personal non-prejudicial interest in each agenda item which affected their Authority.

44. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING WITH CABINET SECRETARY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES ON 15 JANUARY 2018

The Chair informed Members that they would be aware from previous discussions that the Cabinet Secretary for Local Government and Public Services, Alun Davies AM, has expressed his desire to reform the governance and funding arrangements for the Welsh Fire & Rescue Authorities. The Chair advised that to date he is unsure what the Cabinet Secretary has in mind but on Wednesday, 15 February 2018, he and the other two Welsh Fire Authority Chairs have a meeting with him to discuss these proposals.

CREWS OF ABERDARE, HIRWAUN AND MERTHYR TYDFIL

The Chair wished to record his and the Authority's gratitude and thanks to the crews from Aberdare, Hirwaun and Merthyr Tydfil for their outstanding dedication and commitment to their communities at a recent tragic accident. Whilst the outcome of the incident was not more positive for the individual, I know from discussions with the Chief Fire Officer that everyone did what they could under very difficult and challenging circumstances.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE SILVER AWARD

The Chair referred to the last Authority meeting where he made an announcement that the Service had been awarded a Silver Award by the Investors in People, and requested Members to remain at the end of today's meeting for an Authority photograph with Officers and the plaque.

FIRE MEDICAL RESPONSE

The Chair referred to the last meeting of the Authority where Members received an update on the Fire Medical Response pilots that the Service had been taking part in. Whilst the Authority was disappointed that the Fire Brigades Union drew these trials to an end, Members appreciated that this was part of the national negotiations on pay and conditions of employment. However, the Chair was pleased to report today that the crew at Chepstow Fire Station have voluntarily agreed to respond to cardiac arrest calls in their station area.

VISIT OF HRH THE PRINCESS ROYAL

The Chair was pleased to report that on 16 January 2017, the Authority had the pleasure of hosting HRH The Princess Royal at our combined Emergency Services Station at Abertillery. Princess Ann spent over an hour at the station meeting crews from all three emergency services and spent time observing a RTC demonstration in the rain.

45. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The following minutes were received and accepted as a true record of proceedings:

- Finance, Asset & Performance Management Working Group meeting held on 9 October 2017.
- Finance, Audit & Performance Management Committee meeting held on 4 December 2017.
- HR & Equalities Committee meeting held on 20 November 2017.
- Fire & Rescue Authority meeting held on 18 December 2017.

46. UPDATE ON ACTIONS

The Deputy Monitoring Officer advised Members that there were no further updates to be reported.

47. REPORTS FOR DECISION

47.1 PERFORMANCE INDICATOR TARGETS 2018/19 REPORT

The Head of Service Performance and Communications provided detail of the proposed Performance Indicator Targets for 2018/19 for Members' consideration.

RESOLVED THAT

- 47.1.1 Following a question and answer session, Members endorsed the Performance Indicator Targets proposed for 2018/19.
- 47.1.2 Members approved publication of the Targets on the Service's website.
- 47.1.3 Further to discussions surrounding Fire Control's challenge of malicious false alarms, Officers agreed to arrange a visit to the

Joint Public Service Centre within the next four weeks where a demonstration will be arranged to take place for Members.

47.2 RESPONSES TO THE CONSULTATION OF THE DRAFT ROLLING STRATEGIC PLAN AND PRIORITY ACTIONS 2018/19

The Deputy Chief Officer reported on the responses received during the consultation process that ran from 31 October 2017 to 31 January 2018 for Members' consideration.

RESOLVED THAT

- 47.2.1 Members approved the Strategic Themes and Priority Actions detailed in Appendix A (collectively considered as our Improvement Objectives).
- 47.2.2 Members noted the consultation responses detailed in Appendix B.
- 47.2.3 In response to Members' queries, Officers undertook to clarify whether or not Community Councils were included in the recent consultation process.

47.3 SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY ANNUAL PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2018/19

The Acting Director of People Services presented the Authority's 2018/19 Annual Pay Policy Statement for Members' consideration. He informed Members that the South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority is required to publish a Pay Policy Statement for each financial year, which provides information for the following financial year. He reported that the Fire & Rescue Authority, at its meeting held on 6 February 2012, adopted and published its first Pay Policy Statement. The Authority also determined that the HR & Equalities Committee should review the Pay Policy Statement and report to the full Committee. In 2014, Welsh Government issued new guidelines with further amendments which determined the contents of the Pay Policy.

RESOLVED THAT

Members agreed to endorse the South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority's Pay Policy Statement 2018/19 for publication by 31 March 2018.

47.4 GENDER PAY GAP STATEMENT – 30 MARCH 2018

The Acting Director of People Services informed Members that under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties and Public Authorities) Regulations 2017, all

public authorities are required to publish gender pay gap information by reporting the percentage differences in pay between their male and female employees. Public authorities must publish the required information based on data captured on the snapshot date of 31 March 2017, within 12 months, and accordingly the deadline for publication is 30 March 2018.

The Acting Director of People Services provided details of the legal background and requirements placed on the Authority to publish a Gender Pay Gap Statement, the reporting metrics set out in legislation, and the definitions for the relevant pay period, full pay relevant employee, ordinary pay and bonus pay. He also presented the Service's Gender Pay Gap Statement as detailed at Appendix 1.

RESOLVED THAT

Members agreed to endorse South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority's Gender Pay Gap Statement for publication on 30 March 2018.

48 REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

48.1 RESPONSE TO CLADDING SYSTEM TEST FAILURES IN HIGH RISE PREMISES WITHIN SOUTH WALES

The Area Manager – Head of Risk Reduction delivered an electronic presentation which informed Members of the Risk Reduction activity that has taken place since the Grenfell incident on 14 June 2017. She also provided an update of the Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety being led by Dame Judith Hackitt.

RESOLVED THAT

Following a question and answer session, Members agreed to note the Risk Reduction activity being carried out for the safety and reassurance of high-rise living in South Wales, and to also note the current direction of travel of the Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety.

48.2 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Deputy Monitoring Officer presented the Forward Work Programme for 2017/18.

49. TO CONSIDER ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT (PART 1 OR 2)

There were no items of business that the Chair deemed urgent.