SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

**MINUTES OF THE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY MEETING**

**HELD ON MONDAY 29 APRIL 2019 AT**

**SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS**

**49. PRESENT:**

**Councillor Left Authority**

D T Davies (Chair) Caerphilly

S Bradwick (Deputy Chair) Rhondda Cynon Taff

D Ali Cardiff

D De’Ath Cardiff

S Ebrahim Cardiff

C Elsbury Caerphilly

S Evans Torfaen

A Hussey Caerphilly

K McCaffer Vale of Glamorgan

D Naughton Cardiff

A Roberts Rhondda Cynon Taff

V Smith Monmouthshire

J Williams Cardiff

L Brown Monmouthshire

S Pickering Rhondda Cynon Taff

D White Bridgend

J Harries Rhondda Cynon Taff

**APOLOGIES:**

J Collins Blaenau Gwent

R Crowley Vale of Glamorgan

K Critchley Newport

R Shaw Bridgend

H Thomas Newport

**ABSENT:**

L Davies Merthyr Tydfil

**OFFICERS PRESENT:-** CFO H Jakeway, DCO S Chapman – Monitoring Officer, ACFO D Rose – Director of Service Delivery, ACFO R Prendergast – Director of Technical Services, ACO A Reed – Director of People Services, Mr C Barton – Treasurer, Ms S Watkins – Head of Business Support & Deputy Monitoring Officer, SM T Jackson – Staff Officer, Mrs Rebecca Meredith - Media Relations & Communications Manager

**50. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

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

**51. CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WELCOME**

The Chair extended a warm welcome to Alison Reed, Director of People Service to her first meeting of the Fire Authority. On behalf of Members the Chair wished Alison a successful career with the Service.

**WELSH GOVERNMENT WHITE PAPER**

Following Welsh Government’s recent White Paper consultation a meeting has been scheduled with the Chief’s, Chair’s and Minister on 19 June, where detailed feedback on the consultation will be received and what, if any, proposals Welsh Government wish to take.

**NATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS’ MEMORIAL DAY – 4 MAY**

This year there will be a service at Bridgend station for anyone to attend. Further details will be circulated shortly.

**LONDON MEMORIAL SERVICE – 5 MAY**

Area Manager Garry Davies is co-ordinating attendance and as an Authority the service will be represented by Councillors Bradwick, Williams, White and Harries.

**INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL**

Following today’s meeting, the Chair’s and Deputy Chair’s are meeting with the Independent Remuneration Panel to discuss salaries and allowances for FRA Members. These discussions and those with the other FRA’s in Wales will feed into the IPRW’s annual report for next year.

**FUTURE FIREFIGHTER PASSING OUT PARADES**

Members were encouraged to attend future pass out parades, where possible.

**FA AGM – 10 JUNE 2019**

Members were reminded that the AGM is scheduled to take place on Monday, 10 June 2019.

**PRESENTATION EVENING**

Members were also reminded that the next presentation evening is scheduled to take place at Headquarters on the evening of Thursday, 11 July 2019.

**GET WELL WISHES**

The Chair, on behalf of Members, wished to convey his best wishes to Councillor Critchley, who is currently suffering with ill health.

It was reported that the previous Chair of the FAPM Committee, Councillor Greenland is currently suffering with ill health. The Chair, on behalf of Members, wished him well.

**THANK YOU**

The Deputy Chair wished to thank Members for their best wishes following his recent ill health. He also praised NHS staff at the Cardiac Unit, Heath Hospital and also the Prince of Wales Hospital.

**52. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

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

* HR and Equalities meeting held on 19 November 2018
* Finance, Asset and Performance Management Scrutiny Group held on 14 January 2019
* FAPM Meeting held on 28 January 2019
* Fire and Rescue Authority Meeting held on 11 February 2019
* Standards Committee Meeting held on 22 March 2018.

**53. UPDATE ON ACTIONS**

The Deputy Chief Officer informed Members of actions undertaken since the last meeting, and provided an update on minute number 18/19 – 28.1

**54. REPORTS FOR DECISION**

**54.1 SCHEDULE OF MEMBER REMUNERATION**

The Deputy Chief Officer informed Members that the Fire and Rescue Authority are required under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 to publish a Members schedule of remuneration for the Fire and Rescue Authority in relation to payment made to Members and Co-opted Members of the Fire and Rescue Authority.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members approved publication and submission of the Members Schedule of Remuneration to the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales.

**54.2 REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN THE FIRE COVER REVIEW 2014**

The Director of Service Delivery presented a report which updated Members upon the recommendations made in the Fire Cover Review 2014. The Fire Cover Review was to ensure appropriate levels of resources were provided across the whole of the Service’s geographical area. Consideration was given to levels of risk in each of the ten unitary authority areas and respective local communities.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members noted the contents of the progress report and approved the following recommendations:

**BRIDGEND**

* That Members note the current situation detailed in the report in respect of Porthcawl and Kenfig Hill Fire and Rescue Stations;
* Members agreed that the merger of Porthcawl and Kenfig Hill stations is no longer a current priority for the Service, due to the lack of availability of a suitable site;
* Members gave approval to Officers exploring the possibility of a combined emergency service station if there is a desire from the Police and Welsh Ambulance Service NHS Trust.

**CARDIFF**

* Members noted the anticipated population growth within Cardiff over the next 10 years and agreed to the monitoring of future developments within the area over the next 5-10 years, to determine if there is a need to make any changes to fire cover.

**NEWPORT**

* Members noted the current situation detailed within the report in respect of Malpas station and the efforts that have been made to source a suitable alternative site;
* Members agreed for Officers to suspend an active search for a site but to progress the recommendation if and when a suitable alternative site becomes known and available to the Service;
* Members authorised the continued maintenance of the existing station in line with the Service’s property strategy.

**MONMOUTHSHIRE**

* Members supported the maintenance of the second appliances at Monmouth, Chepstow and Abergavenny Stations in support of fire cover in the Monmouthshire Unitary Authority and wider area.

**CAERPHILLY**

* Members noted the changes to fire cover that have already been made within Caerphilly and agreed to the monitoring of call profiles within the area over the next 5-10 years to determine if there is a need to make any further changes to fire cover.

**MERTHYR TYDFIL**

* Members noted the current situation detailed within the report in respect of Abercynon and Treharris stations;
* Members agreed that the merger of Abercynon and Treharris stations is no longer a current priority for the Service, due to the lack of availability of a suitable site.

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF**

* Members noted the current situation detailed within the report in respect of Pontypridd station and the efforts that have been made to source a suitable alternative site;
* Members agreed for Officers to suspend an active search for a site but to progress the recommendation if and when a suitable alternative site becomes known and available to the Service;
* That due to the poor condition of Pontypridd station, Members authorised the refurbishment of the existing station in line with the Service’s property strategy.

**54.3 DRAFT ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2018 – 2019**

The Monitoring Officer reported on the Annual Corporate Governance Statement which will be included within the 2018-2019 Statement of Accounts.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members approved the content of the Draft Annual Governance Statement for 2018-19.

**55. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

**RESOLVED THAT**

**55.1 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WORK OF THE FINANCE, AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE DISCHARGE OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE FINANCE, ASSET AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SCRUTINY GROUP**

The Deputy Chair of the FAPM Committee updated Members upon the Annual Report on the work of the Finance, Audit & Performance Management Committee and its Scrutiny Group for the municipal year 2018/19.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members noted the work undertaken by the Finance, Audit & Performance Management Committee and Scrutiny Group during the municipal year.

**55.2 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WORK OF THE HR AND EQUALITIES COMMITTEE DURING 2018/19**

The Chair of the HR & Equalities Committee updated Members on the Annual Report of the work that the HR & Equalities Committee has undertaken during the Municipal Year 2018/19.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members noted the work of the HR & Equalities Committee.

**55.3 SUMMARY OF THE LOCAL PENSION BOARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Chair of the Local Pension Board updated Members on the work that the South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority Local Pension Board has undertaken during the Municipal Year 2018/19.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members noted the work of the South Wales Fire & Rescue Authority Local Pension Board.

**55.4 WORK OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARDS (PSB)**

The Deputy Chief Officer advised Members that South Wales Fire & Rescue Service is a statutory partner on the 9 Public Service Boards (PSBs). The report highlighted the work being undertaken by the PSBs and how this impacts upon the work of South Wales Fire & Rescue Service.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members noted the content of the report.

**55.5 WELSH LANGUAGE STANDARDS UPDATE – JANUARY 2019**

The Assistant Chief Officer People Services provided an overview of the current position with regard to meeting the legal requirements contained within the Welsh Language Standards Compliance Notice issued to the Authority by the Welsh Language Commissioner on 30 September 2016.

**RESOLVED THAT**

55.5.1 Members noted the information contained within the report.

55.5.2 Members requested further information on the amount of queries that the Service receives through the medium of Welsh and it was agreed that this information including statistics and costs would be provided at a future HR&E Committee meeting.

**55.6 FIRE AUTHORITY AND COMMITTEE DATES FOR 2019/20**

The Monitoring Officer reported on the proposed Fire Authority and Committee dates for Municipal Year 2019/20 for Members’ information and noting, prior to a formal agreement at the Annual General Meeting on 10 June 2019.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members noted the proposed Fire Authority and Committee dates for Municipal Year 2019/20.

**55.7 FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY – MEMBERS ATTENDANCE 2018/19**

The Monitoring Officer provided a spreadsheet containing Members attendance during 2018/19.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members noted the content of the spreadsheet.

**55.8 CAPITAL STRATEGY 2019/20**

The Treasurer provided an overview of Capital Expenditure, Capital Financing and Treasury Management, all of which contribute to the delivery of South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority’s corporate objectives.

The strategy brings together the statutory requirements of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountants (CIPFA) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities: Revised 2017 Edition (CIPFA Prudential Code).

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members noted the contents of the report and approved the Capital Strategy set out in Appendix 1.

**55.9 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Deputy Chief Officer presented the Forward Work Programme for 2018/19.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members noted the completed Forward Work Programme for 2018/19.

**56. TO CONSIDER ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRPERSON DEEMS URGENT (PART 1 OR 2)**

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