

NORTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 14 June 2006 at North Yorkshire Fire Training Centre, Oaklands Way, Easingwold.

PRESENT:-

County Councillor Graham Gatman (in the Chair); County Councillors Andrew Backhouse, William F Barton OBE, Eric Broadbent, John Fort BEM, D L Ireton, J W Marshall, Chris Metcalfe, Chris Pearson (as Substitute for P G Brown), John Savage, Caroline Seymour and John Wren.

City Councillors Keith Aspden, Kenneth King, Jonathan Morley and Mark Waudby.

COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED ARE IN THE MINUTE BOOK

952. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2006 and the special meeting held on 27 March 2006 be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

953. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no representations from members of the public.

954. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS – YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Director of Corporate Services seeking approval to the Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2006.

County Councillor John Fort BEM advised that he was pleased that the accounting treatment of operational leases was being considered and also about the situation relating to income.

County Councillor Mrs Caroline Seymour commended the officers for the quality and prompt preparation of the accounts. Others Members agreed with those comments.

RESOLVED –

That the Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2006 be approved.

955. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN 2006-2007

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Director of Corporate Services seeking approval of the Performance Plan for 2006-2007. Copies of the draft Plan had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED –

That the North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority Performance Plan for 2006-2007 be approved.

956. IRMP 2007/08 DRAFT ACTION PLAN

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer advising Members of proposals to be included in the 2007/08 Action Plan in support of the Authority's five year Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP).

City Councillor Kenneth King advised that he was concerned about recent comments by the FBU which had been reported in the local press. The Chief Fire Officer suggested that there would be an opportunity, during consideration of a later item on the agenda for this meeting, to discuss the FBU comments and emphasised that the IRMP 2007/08 Draft Action Plan was submitted to this meeting for approval for the purpose of consultation which would include members of the public and staff.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the proposals outlined in Appendix B to the report be accepted and form the basis of the IRMP 2007/08 Action Plan for consultation purposes.
- (b) That a comprehensive consultation strategy be developed to fulfil the Authority's statutory obligations with the results of that process being reported back to Members via a Seminar in November 2006, with a final Action Plan being submitted for approval to the Authority meeting in December 2006.

957. REGIONAL FIRE CONTROL CENTRE - UPDATE

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer/Director of Community Safety updating Members on the Regional Fire Control project.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That the draft consultation response, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be approved as the Authority's response to the national consultation process.

958. DRAFT REGIONAL PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Director of Corporate Services seeking endorsement of the Draft Regional Procurement Strategy prior to its referral to the Regional Management Board for approval and adoption.

The Director of Corporate Services, in presenting the report, advised that the figures within the draft Regional Procurement Strategy needed be treated with caution

because work was currently being undertaken to ensure a consistent method of data collection between Fire Services.

County Councillor Eric Broadbent advised that he had been invited to attend meetings to oversee this work.

RESOLVED –

That the Authority respond to the consultation exercise by expressing its support for the draft Regional Procurement Strategy.

959. RMB PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT BOARD

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Chief Fire Officer informing Members of the establishment of a Programme Management Board (PMB) within the Regional Management Board (RMB), seeking endorsement of the Authority's contribution to the cost of establishing effective Programme Management arrangements within the RMB, and seeking nomination of a Member and Substitute to the PMB.

County Councillor Mrs Seymour nominated the Chairman for appointment to the PMB.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the establishment of a Programme Management Board within the Regional Management Board be endorsed.
- (b) That the Authority's Chairman be nominated as a Member of the Programme Management Board.
- (c) That the Authority's financial contribution to the cost of letting a contract to establish effective programme management of the six key functions for which the RMB is responsible be endorsed.

960. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Secretary seeking the Authority's approval of any nominations which Political Groups submitted orally to this meeting concerning changes to Committee memberships.

No nominations were submitted to the meeting by Political Groups.

RESOLVED –

That no changes be made to Committee memberships.

961. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Secretary asking the Authority to appoint its representatives to serve on outside bodies for 2006/07.

In presenting the report, the Secretary asked the Authority also to appoint one Member to the LGYH Employers' Committee and to indicate whether it had any views on the suggestion that the existing Chair and Vice-Chair of the LGYH Employers' Committee should continue in post.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That the following Members be appointed to represent the Authority on the under-mentioned bodies to serve until the Authority's meeting to be held in June 2007:-
- (i) LGYH – Chairman of the Authority. (Substitute – Vice-Chairman of the Authority).
 - (ii) LGYH Employers' Committee – Chairman of the Authority.
 - (iii) Yorkshire and Humberside Fire Authorities' Advisory Committee and Examination Board - City Councillor Kenneth King and County Councillor John Wren.
 - (iv) Local Government Association:- Fire Service Forum – Chairman; Urban Commission - City Councillor Mark Waudby and County Councillor Eric Broadbent; Rural Commission - County Councillor Caroline Seymour and County Councillor W J Fort, BEM; General Assembly - County Councillors W J Fort, BEM and Caroline Seymour and City Councillors Kenneth King and City Councillor Jonathan Morley.
- (b) That the LGYH Employers' Committee be advised that this Authority is happy for its existing Chair and Vice-Chair to continue in post.

962. APPOINTMENTS TO CHANGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME WORKSTREAMS

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Secretary seeking the Authority's approval of any suggested changes which Members submitted orally to this meeting concerning memberships of the Change Management Programme Workstreams.

No changes were submitted to the meeting by Members.

Members commented that they needed to get more involved in the work of the Change Management Programme Workstreams.

RESOLVED –

That no changes be made to Change Management Programme Workstream memberships.

963. MONITORING OFFICER

CONSIDERED –

Joint report of the Monitoring Officer and the Secretary seeking approval of the appointment of Stephen Knight (Secretary to the Authority) as Monitoring Officer.

RESOLVED –

That Stephen Knight be appointed as Monitoring Officer with effect from when the current Head of Legal Services leaves her post until the Authority appoints the new Head of Legal Services as its Monitoring Officer.

964. 2006 COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (CPA) - OPERATIONAL ASSURANCE UPDATE

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer updating Members on the 2006 Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) Project relating to operational assurance.

Members questioned the Officers in relation to the scoring and assessment procedures.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

965. LOCAL CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - 2005/06 MONITORING

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Director Corporate Services advising of the position regarding the operation of the Local Code of Corporate Governance.

RESOLVED –

That current progress against the Local Code of Corporate Governance, as set out in the Appendix to the report, be noted.

966. ACCESS TO INFORMATION – LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) (VARIATION) ORDER 2006

CONSIDERED -

Report of the Secretary advising that the 15 categories (with qualifications) of exempt information had been replaced with seven categories (with qualifications) of exempt information by virtue of the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

967. COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer updating Members on prevention activities and developments; protection activities and developments; notable incidents and Intervention Developments which had occurred since the Authority's previous meeting.

Members commended the Officers for on the success of the Local Intervention Fire Education (LIFE) and asked that arrangements be made to publicise this work.

In response to questions from County Councillor Andrew Backhouse, the Chief Fire Officer reported on the success of the Vector Ion Software which had been used in the Gold Command Exercise on 29 March 2006.

In response to a question from County Councillor D L Ireton, the Officers confirmed that they were investigating the increase in the number of road traffic accidents.

The Chief Fire Officer confirmed that discussions would be held with the North Yorks Moor Railways with a view to preventing any further incidents of fire on moorland as a result of sparks from locomotives.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

968. HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

CONSIDERED –

Report of the Assistant Chief Fire Officer/Director of Human Resources providing an update on human resource projects, policy developments and relevant legislative changes.

At the request of City Councillor Kenneth King, the Chief Fire Officer commented on FBU reports, published recently in the local press, which had suggested that the Fire Service was putting lives at risk.

At the request of County Councillor Mrs Caroline Seymour, the Assistant Chief Fire Officer/Director of Human Resources reported on the work being undertaken with regard to the recruitment of female firefighters.

RESOLVED –

That the report be noted.

969. COMMITTEE MINUTES

CONSIDERED –

Minutes of the following meetings:-

- (a) Yorkshire and Humberside Fire Authorities' Regional Management Board – 6 April 2006.
- (a) Audit and Performance Review Committee – 24 May 2006.
- (b) Standards Committee – 10 February 2006.
- (c) Appointments Committee – 6 February and 13 and 24 April 2006.

RESOLVED –

That the Minutes be noted.

970. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH
STANDING ORDER 5**

No questions were raised.

RAG