

**SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY****20 OCTOBER 2014**

PRESENT: Councillor J Andrews (Chair)  
 Councillor A Atkin (Vice-Chair)  
 Councillors: A Bosmans, A Buckley, A Cave, T Fox, I Hussain,  
 S Phillips, C Ross, S M Richards and J Satur

M McCarthy, D Cutting, L Noble and M McCoole (South  
 Yorkshire Joint Secretariat)

J Courtney, M Shaw, S Chu, B Sandy and J Roberts (South  
 Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service)

A Frosdick, J Bell and F Foster (BMBC)

1 **APOLOGIES**

None.

2 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

3 **URGENT ITEMS**

Councillor Fox referred to a number of pension related emails in relation to South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service's employees, and sought answers in relation to the deficit.

The Chief Fire Officer referred Members to a letter he had received from A Cornelius, Head of the Firefighters' Pension Scheme, dated 3 July 2014, which was a direct response to an enquiry regarding the implications of Close Proximity Crewing (CPC) and the Pension Scheme. A Cornelius had stated that, even if the Service introduced CPC at all five of the proposed stations, the impact upon the Pension Scheme would equate to 0.06% which was negligible, not least as firefighters would begin to move towards career average schemes from next year.

A Frosdick commented that CPC would be taken as an urgent item, and would be discussed in the private section of the meeting.

4 **ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ABSENCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

RESOLVED – That agenda item 18 entitled '6 x Appliance Replacements' and the urgent item to be taken at item 19 entitled 'Close Proximity Crewing' to be considered in the absence of the public and press.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS IN RELATION TO ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA

None.

6 REPORTS BY MEMBERS

Councillor Satur had visited the Control Room on 6 October 2014, where Lorraine Smith and Ian Gillatt had explained the roles and duties to her; she had sent a letter of thanks for such an enlightening visit.

Councillor Richards expressed thanks to the Authority, for the opportunity to attend the recent LGA Fire Leadership Academy two day course, which she recommended all Members to attend; Councillor Buckley would attend the next course.

Councillors Bosmans and Ransome had presented the SSCR Fund cheque to Outwood Academy, Adwick on 6 October 2014.

Councillor Bosmans commented that a further Project Team meeting would be held on 7 November 2014 in relation to the two new fire stations.

7 RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

None.

8 TO RECEIVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

9 MINUTES OF THE AUTHORITY MEETING HELD ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2014

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Authority meeting held on 8 September 2014 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

10 SOUTH YORKSHIRE JOINT SECRETARIAT - INTEGRATION

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to inform Members of the progress made to date in integrating the support arrangements to the South Yorkshire Joint Authorities with Barnsley MBC acting as lead authority on behalf of South Yorkshire partners.

Members noted that the Joint Secretariat Management Board had given approval at its meeting on 26 September 2014, to the proposed integrated arrangements to support the Joint Authorities directly through Barnsley Council acting as lead authority, and proposed that the Joint Authorities be recommended to formalise the arrangements with effect from 1 April 2015. As a result, a review of the future role of the Joint Secretariat Management Board would be undertaken, and the South Yorkshire Joint Secretariat as a “Brand” would formally cease.

Members agreed that a Service Level Agreement (SLA) was necessary, to provide reassurance to the public that the Authority was getting value for money.

A Frosdick commented that a SLA would shortly be produced and would specify that the Authority would continue to receive the same level of service it had received historically; Members would also be asked what additional services were required. The Chair pointed out that any additional services would mean increased costs.

Councillor Bosmans requested that Members had the opportunity to scrutinise the SLA within 6 months to 1 years' time.

Councillor Buckley suggested that the SLA be submitted to the Scrutiny Board meeting on 13 November 2014; all Members would be invited to attend the meeting to discuss the item.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Approved the proposed arrangements to establish Barnsley as Lead Authority to provide relevant support services to the Authority with effect from April 2015 and that the relevant formal agreement between the Council and the Authority be amended.
- ii) Received the accounts and related reports for the financial year 2014/15 and consideration be given to the future of the Joint Secretariat Management Board.
- iii) Agreed that all Members be invited to the Scrutiny Board Meeting on 13 November 2014 to discuss the SLA.
- iv) Agreed the SLA be brought back to the Authority meeting on 24 November 2014 for final approval.
- v) Agreed to scrutinise the SLA within 6 months to 1 years' time.

11 ASIAN FIRE SERVICES ASSOCIATION (AFSA) CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 2014

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted to seek Members expressions of interest to attend the Asian Fire Services Association (AFSA) Conference on 13 and 14 November 2014 in Stoke-on-Trent.

RESOLVED – That Members agreed Councillor Cave would attend the conference.

12 WOD BOARD / SYFR SUPPORT SERVICES REVIEW

A report of the Clerk to the Fire and Rescue Authority was submitted which provided those Members of the Authority who did not sit on the Workforce and Organisational Development Board (WOD) with a brief update on the Special WOD Board held on 17 September 2014 to consider the Support Services Review.

Councillor Fox expressed thanks to all of the Heads of Functions, Fire Brigades Union, Members, J Bell and L Noble for the work involved in the special meeting.

WOD Board would be held on 19 November 2014 and would receive a report back on the points raised by Members at the special meeting on 17 September 2014.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the consideration of the Support Services Review by Members of the WOD Board.

### 13 OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT FINAL REPORT

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted which provided detailed feedback from the OpA and Fire Peer Challenge that was undertaken by South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue (SYFR) and highlighted key findings and areas to explore.

Councillor Ross commented that the report needed to further reflect on industrial relations.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Noted the recommendations for actions to be taken forward.
- iii) Approved the development of an action plan.
- iv) Agreed that the full action plan be taken to the next Authority meeting.

### 14 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

A report of the Treasurer and Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted which provided Members with context and assumptions behind the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) which would form the backcloth to the Authority's budget setting process for 2015/16 and beyond.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the latest Medium Term Financial Strategy and the options available to bridge future deficits.

### 15 ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013/14

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive and Clerk was submitted which presented Members with the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Annual Report for 2013/14.

It was noted that upon Members' approval, the report would be made available on the Service's website.

RESOLVED – That Members noted and approved the report.

16 CONTROL COLLABORATION PROJECT (CCP) UPDATE

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive and Clerk was submitted to provide the Authority with the quarterly update on the progress of the joint Control Collaboration Project which was being undertaken in conjunction with West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue (WYFR).

Members were informed that the South Yorkshire element of command and control went live on 7 October 2014; it was anticipated that West Yorkshire would go live in November 2014.

Members noted that:-

- Data cleansing, migration and manipulation was now complete.
- There was one outstanding training issue in relation to bolt-on systems i.e. Geo-Concept.
- A number of minor developments were currently underway in relation to ICT.
- The South Yorkshire element of Project Builds/Delivery was complete; the “fall-back” room had been handed over to West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue.
- The joint Ways of Working Team continued to look at “synergies” across each service, and were examining how to further enhance joint ways of working.

Councillor Bosmans was encouraged by the way people had pulled together to work on the project, which had been delivered on time and to budget; he suggested the project be rolled out to other fire and rescue services who were interested in the scheme, to work alongside SYSTEL.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the progress of the project to date.

17 LOCALISM ACT - COMMUNITY RIGHT TO CHALLENGE

A report of the Deputy Clerk/Deputy Monitoring Officer was submitted following a request by Members made at the Authority Meeting held on 28 October 2013, that the Policy and Procedure be reviewed within 12 months and any amendments or CRC applications received be reported to the Authority.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the report and revised Appendix A (Policy and Procedure).
- ii) Requested that an update be brought to the Authority by exception e.g. only if there were amendments required to the Policy and Procedure and/or if any Community Right to Challenge applications were received.

18 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED – That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in

paragraphs 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act and the public interest not to disclose information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

19 6 X APPLIANCE REPLACEMENTS

A report of the Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive was submitted regarding the replacement of six Rescue Pump appliances.

RESOLVED – That Members:-

- i) Noted the contents of the report.
- ii) Authorised the capital expenditure identified within the report to purchase six Rescue Pump appliances.

20 CLOSE PROXIMITY CREWING (CPC)

The Chief Fire Officer updated Members on the latest position of Close Proximity Crewing (CPC) within South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service.

RESOLVED – That Members noted the update.

CHAIR