**SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY**

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

**HELD ON MONDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 1030 HOURS**

**AT SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE HEADQUARTERS**

**38.** **PRESENT:**

**Councillor Arrived Left Authority**

D T Davies (Chair) Caerphilly

D Ali Cardiff

L Brown Monmouthshire

M Colbran Merthyr Tydfil

P Drake Vale of Glamorgan

C Elsbury Caerphilly

S Evans Torfaen

J Holt Blaenau Gwent

A Hussey Caerphilly

H Jarvie Vale of Glamorgan

A Jones Torfaen

D Naughton Cardiff

A Roberts Rhondda Cynon Taf

V Smith Monmouthshire

M Spencer Newport

H Thomas Newport

J Williams 1040 Cardiff

**APOLOGIES:**

S Bradwick Rhondda Cynon Taf

S Ebrahim Cardiff

J Harries Rhondda Cynon Taf

A Lister Cardiff

S Pickering Rhondda Cynon Taf

D White Bridgend

**ABSENT:**

R Shaw Bridgend

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** CFO H Jakeway; DCO S Chapman – Monitoring Officer; Mr C Barton – Treasurer; ACO A Reed – Director of People Services; ACFO R Prendergast – Director Technical Services; AM G Davies – Head of Operations

**39. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

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

**40. CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING OF THE COMPARTMENTAL FIRE BEHAVIOUR TRAINING FACILITY**

The Chair reminded Members of the official opening of the new CFBT facility by the Deputy Minister on Thursday, 14 February 2020. Members were asked to arrive at Cardiff Gate Training & Development Centre by 0945 hrs.

**NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES – PROGRESS REPORT**

The Chair brought to Members’ attention the publication of the Deputy Minister’s bi-annual report on the Welsh Fire & Rescue Services. The Chair reiterated that it is an all-Wales report, and along with officers he is working through the report to consider the source data that has been used to determine the next steps. A report will be brought to the next meeting of Fire & Rescue Authority.

A copy of the Welsh Government report will be circulated to all Members of the Authority.

**CANTEEN FACILITY AT HEADQUARTERS**

The Chair was pleased to advise that should Members wish to purchase lunch or a snack following the meeting, the canteen facility is now open 5 days a week. It is being run by ‘Miss Tilleys’, who provide work experience opportunities to people with learning disabilities.

**41. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of the Finance, Asset & Performance Management Scrutiny Group meeting held on 7 October 2019 were received and accepted as a true record.

The minutes of the Local Pension Board meeting held on 24 June 2020 were duly noted but could not be confirmed as a true record in the absence of a second Member of the Board.

The minutes of the Standards Committee meeting held on 4 February 2019 were duly noted but could not be confirmed as a true record in the absence of a second Member of the Committee.

The minutes of the Fire & Rescue Authority meeting held on 16 December 2020 were received and accepted as a true record, subject to amendment to include the attendance of Councillor Malcolm Colbran.

**42. UPDATE ON ACTIONS**

The Deputy Chief Officer advised that all outstanding actions had been completed.

**43. REPORTS FOR DECISION**

**43.1 WALES AUDIT OFFICE ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER 2018/19 AND CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE 2018/19**

The Deputy Chief Officer reported on the conclusion of the Wales Audit Office review of the Authority’s audit of financial reporting for 2018/19 and assessment of performance for 2018/19, following receipt of both the Wales Audit Office Annual Audit Letter 2018/19 and Certificate of Compliance 2018/19.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members noted the two documents received from the Wales Audit Office.

**43.2 REVENUE BUDGET 2020/21**

The Treasurer updated Members on outstanding matters in respect of the revenue budget and provided feedback on the consultation exercise undertaken and the budget planning considerations undertaken to reduce the proposed budget increase from 4.5% to an increase of 4.25%.

During a question and answer session, the Treasurer provided clarity on aspects of the report.

The Chair wished to record his thanks to the Treasurer and his teams for the excellent work undertaken in determining the revenue budget for 2020/21.

**RESOLVED THAT**

Members approved the contribution budget at £74,879,797, representing an increase of 4.25%.

**43.3 STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE INDICATOR TARGETS 2020/21**

The Head of Operations presented the proposed Strategic Performance Indicators for 2020/21 for Members’ consideration.

Specifics of the data provided were discussed in further detail, and the Chair reminded Members that the performance indicators are set by Welsh Government, and not the Fire Authority.

The Chief Fire Officer, particularly in light of the progress report relating to the National Framework for Fire & Rescue Services, advised that the Service’s ambition is to make the societies of South Wales safer and to add more value to the communities that we serve. This is reflected in the Authority’s decision that the Service provides a response over and about its statutory functions.

**RESOLVED THAT**

43.3.1 Members agreed to endorse the Performance Indicator Targets proposed for 2020/21.

43.3.2 Members approved delegation to the Director of Service Delivery to review the quarter 4 data for 2019/20 and planned reduction strategies, and refine targets as necessary.

43.3.3 Members approved its publication on the South Wales Fire & Rescue Service website.

**43.4 RESPONSES TO THE CONSULTATION ON THE STRATEGIC THEMES AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2020/21**

The Deputy Chief Officer updated Members on the recent public consultation on the Strategic Themes and Objectives developed for 2020/21, and Members were requested to consider the responses received during the consultation period of 21 September 2019 to 13 December 2019.

Debate took place on the consultation questions, and whilst these had previously been agreed by Members, officers undertook to include a preamble to next year’s consultation on Strategic Themes and Objectives in order to provide some context. It was further agreed that in terms of the ethnicity question, ‘Black-British’ should be an additional option. Officers noted the omission and undertook to include going forward.

**RESOLVED THAT**

43.4.1 Members reviewed the consultation evaluation contained in Appendices B, C and D to the report.

43.4.2 Members approved the Strategic Themes and Objectives detailed within Appendix A to the report.

**44. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

44.1 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20**

The Deputy Chief Officer presented the Forward Work Programme for 2019/20, and undertook to report on the National Framework for Fire & Rescue Services – Progress Report at the next meeting.

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

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