

SOUTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF THE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13 JUNE 2022 AT 1030 HRS IN MEETING ROOMS 8 OR REMOTELY VIA TEAMS

1. PRESENT:

Councillor	Authority
D Ali	Cardiff
S Bradwick	Rhondda Cynon Taff
I Buckley	Vale of Glamorgan
K Carr	Cardiff
P Drake	Vale of Glamorgan
C Elsbury	Caerphilly
S Evans	Torfaen
G Holmes	Rhondda Cynon Taff
A Hussey	Caerphilly
D Isaac	Merthyr Tydfil
S Malson	Torfaen
S-E Melbourne	Cardiff
S McConnel	Monmouthshire (via Teams)
J Morgan	Blaenau Gwent
D Naughton	Cardiff
M Al-Nuaimi	Newport
D Parkin	Rhondda Cynon Taff
M Powell	Monmouthshire
A Roberts	Rhondda Cynon Taff
C Wright	Caerphilly

APOLOGIES:

T/DCFO R Prendergast	Director of Technical Services
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ABSENT:

T Watkins	Newport
To be confirmed	Bridgend
To be confirmed	Bridgend
To be confirmed	Cardiff

OFFICERS PRESENT: CFO H Jakeway, ACFO D Rose - Director of Service Delivery, Temp ACFO N Williams – Director of Technical Services, ACO A Reed – Director of People Services, Mr C Barton – Treasurer, Temp ACO G Thomas – Director of Corporate Support & Monitoring Officer, Mrs S Watkins – Deputy Monitoring Officer

The Monitoring Officer welcomed everybody to the Annual General Meeting and for the benefit of new Members he provided a brief overview of the structure of the meeting.

Following a request by the Monitoring Officer, each attendee provided a formal introduction.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Holmes declared a personal non-prejudicial interest due to his membership of the Royal Chartered Institute of Surveyors.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON OF THE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

The Monitoring Officer requested nominations for Chairperson of the Fire & Rescue Authority. Councillor Bradwick was nominated and seconded. There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED THAT

Councillor Bradwick was duly elected Chair of the Fire & Rescue Authority for the Municipal Year 2022/2023.

The newly appointed Chair responded by delivering a personal address. He thanked Members for their unanimous vote of confidence and stated he was looking forward to the year ahead. He extended a warm welcome to new Members, and took the opportunity to thank outgoing Members for all their hard work and commitment on behalf of the Fire & Rescue Authority, especially to Councillor V Smith, and to the outgoing Chair, Councillor T Davies.

4. ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

The newly appointed Chair called for nominations for the Deputy Chairperson. Councillor Drake was nominated and seconded. There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED THAT

Councillor Drake was duly elected Deputy Chair of the Fire & Rescue Authority for the Municipal Year 2022/2023.

The newly appointed Deputy Chair thanked Members for their unanimous support.

5. PROPOSED REFORMS FOR SCRUTINY GROUP

The temporary ACO Corporate Services informed Members that they would be aware that several reports on the proposed reforms and new Terms of Reference for the Scrutiny Group had been presented to the Finance, Asset, & Performance Management Scrutiny Group, the Finance, Audit & Performance Management Committee, the HR & Equalities Committee, and the Fire & Rescue Authority, for discussion and consideration.

RESOLVED THAT

5.1 Members agreed to consider the options outlined in paragraphs 2.3 to 2.7 to reform the Finance, Asset & Performance Management Scrutiny Group in the new Municipal Year 2022/2023.

5.2 Following discussion on the 3 individual options, a vote was carried out by Members of 19 votes to 1 to accept the third option, which was to agree that the Scrutiny Group would consist of 7 Members only, with 3 reserves, and the HR & Equalities Committee would be reduced from 15 to 12 Members.

6. TO AGREE THE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

The Monitoring Officer provided Members with details of the number of Members required for each Fire & Rescue Authority Committee.

RESOLVED THAT

6.1 Members unanimously agreed that the Finance, Audit & Performance Management Committee should not be politically balanced but comprise of one representative from each constituent Unitary Authority.

6.2 The Chair called for nominations for the following membership of Committees for 2022/2023:-

Finance Audit & Performance Management Committee

Cllr J Morgan	Blaenau Gwent
Cllr C Wright	Caerphilly
To be confirmed	Cardiff
Cllr M Powell	Monmouthshire
Cllr M Al-Nuaimi	Newport
Cllr D Parkin	Rhondda Cynon-Taff
Cllr S Evans	Torfaen
Cllr I Buckley	Vale of Glamorgan
Cllr D Isaac	Merthyr Tydfil
To be confirmed	Bridgend

Local Pension Board

Cllr J Morgan	Blaenau Gwent
Cllr P Drake	Vale of Glamorgan
Cllr C Elsbury	Caerphilly
Cllr D Naughton	Cardiff

HR & Equalities

Cllr A Roberts	Rhondda Cynon Taff
Cllr D Ali	Cardiff
Cllr S Malson	Torfaen
Cllr A Hussey	Caerphilly
Cllr C Elsbury	Caerphilly
Cllr D Naughton	Cardiff
Cllr K Carr	Cardiff

Cllr S Melbourne	Cardiff
Cllr S McConnel	Monmouthshire
To be confirmed	Bridgend
Cllr G Holmes	Rhondda Cynon-Taff
Cllr D Parkin	Rhondda Cynon-Taff

Standards Committee

Cllr G Holmes	Rhondda Cynon Taff
Cllr A Roberts	Rhondda CynonTaff
Cllr S Melbourne	Cardiff

Mr R J Alexander	Remain as non-elected Independent Member
Mr S J Barnes	Remain as non-elected Independent Member
Mr G Hughes	Remain as non-elected Independent Member
Mr David Fussell	Remain as non-elected Independent Member
Dr M Kerbey	Remain as non-elected Independent Member

7. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON OF THE FINANCE, AUDIT & PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FROM ITS COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

The Chair called for nominations for Chairperson of the Finance, Audit & Performance Management Committee from among its Members. Councillor S Evans was nominated and seconded. There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED THAT

Councillor S Evans was duly elected as Chair of the Finance, Audit & Performance Management Committee.

8. ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE FINANCE, AUDIT & PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FROM ITS COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

The Chair called for nominations for Deputy Chairperson of the Finance, Audit & Performance Management Committee from among its Members. Councillor Morgan was nominated and seconded. There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED THAT

Councillor Morgan was duly elected as Deputy Chair of the Finance, Audit & Performance Management Committee.

9. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON OF THE HR & EQUALITIES COMMITTEE FROM ITS COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

The Chair called for nominations for Chairperson of the HR & Equalities Committee from among the Members of that Committee. Councillor Roberts was nominated and seconded. There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED THAT

Councillor Roberts was duly elected as Chair of the HR & Equalities Committee for 2022/2023.

10. ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE HR & EQUALITIES COMMITTEE FROM ITS COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

The Chair called for nominations for Deputy Chairperson of the HR & Equalities Committee from among its Members. Councillor Ali was nominated and seconded. There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED THAT

Councillor Ali was duly elected as Deputy Chair of the HR & Equalities Committee for 2022/2023.

11. TO AGREE THE APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER GROUPS AND OUTSIDE BODIES FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

The Monitoring Officer provided Members with a report detailing the nominations required to represent the Fire & Rescue Authority at Working Groups and outside bodies.

RESOLVED THAT

Members agreed the following representations to the Working Groups and outside organisations detailed in Appendix 1 attached to the report:-

Representative to WLGA

Chairperson – Councillor Steven Bradwick

Representative on LGA Fire Committee

Chairperson – Councillor Steven Bradwick

Community Safety Partnership Representatives

Cllr C Elsbury	Caerphilly
Cllr I Buckley	Vale of Glamorgan
Cllr S McConnel	Monmouthshire
Cllr T Watkins	Newport
Cllr G Holmes	Rhondda Cynon Taff
Cllr S Evans	Torfaen
Cllr D Isaac	Merthyr Tydfil
Cllr J Morgan	Blaenau Gwent
To be confirmed	Bridgend
To be confirmed	Cardiff

With reference to the Standing Orders Working Group, the Monitoring Officer took the opportunity to provide a brief overview of current legislation and informed Members that the constitution would be revised in due course.

Representatives on Standing Orders Working Group

Cllr C Elsbury	Caerphilly
Cllr A Roberts	Rhondda Cynon-Taff
Cllr M Powell	Monmouthshire

Representatives on Innovations & Awards Panel

Cllr S Evans	Torfaen
Cllr C Wright	Caerphilly
Cllr D Naughton	Cardiff

Representatives on the Scrutiny Group

Cllr C Elsbury	Caerphilly
Cllr D Naughton	Cardiff
Cllr S Malson	Torfaen

Cllr A Hussey	Caerphilly
Cllr K Carr	Cardiff
Cllr T Watkins	Newport
To be confirmed	Bridgend

The Monitoring Officer confirmed that he would write to Members requesting reserves to sit on the Scrutiny Group.

Representatives on Pension Scheme Advisory Board for Wales

Cllr A Roberts	Rhondda Cynon Taff
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Member Champions

Cllr G Holmes	Property
Cllr I Buckley	Community Safety
Cllr S Bradwick	Equality, Diversity & Inclusion
Cllr S Evans	Fleet & Engineering
Cllr D Isaac	Service Delivery
Cllr K Carr	Sustainability & Biodiversity

12. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SCRUTINY GROUP FROM ITS GROUP MEMBERS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

The Chair called for nominations for Chairperson of the Scrutiny Group from among the Members of that Group. Councillor Elsbury was nominated and seconded. There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED THAT

Councillor Elsbury was duly elected as Chair of the Scrutiny Group for 2022/2023.

13. ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON OF THE SCRUTINY GROUP FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

The Chair called for nominations for Deputy Chairperson of the Scrutiny Group from among its Members. Councillor Malson was nominated and seconded. There were no other nominations.

RESOLVED THAT

Councillor Malson was duly elected as Deputy Chair of the Scrutiny Group for 2022/2023.

14. TO AGREE THE CYCLE OF MEETINGS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2022/2023

The Deputy Monitoring Officer provided Members with details of the proposed cycle of Training, Committee and Working Group meetings for the Municipal Year 2022/2023. She took the opportunity to highlight the key events taking place throughout the Municipal Year, and assured Members that all meeting dates would be programmed into individual calendars.

RESOLVED THAT

14.1 Members approved the cycle of Training, Committee and Working Group meetings for the Municipal Year 2022/2023 detailed in Appendix 1 attached to the report.

14.2 Following a request by the Chair, Members unanimously agreed that all meetings would commence at 1000 hrs rather than 1030 hrs.

The Chair also took the opportunity to draw Members attention to the key events taking place throughout the Municipal Year, and urged Members to attend the Passing Out Parades, and the Presentation Evenings taking place in September, as well as the Emergency Services Carol Service.

The Chair also advised Members to support the Fire Cadets within their local area and to attend events whenever possible.

15. TO CONSIDER ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no items of urgent business to discuss.

WELCOME ADDRESS FROM THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

The Chief Fire Officer extended a warm welcome to all returning and new Members and stated that he was looking forward to working with them. He assured Members that Officers were available to provide any help and support, especially if they required any information relating to issues within their respective local areas.

The Chair closed the meeting by informing Members that refreshments were available in the Conference Room where official photographs would also be taken.