

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15 JULY 2021

Present: Councillors J Chatterley (Chair), K Choudhry, D McVicar and Y Waheed
CFO A Hopkinson, ACO G Chambers and Mr J Atkinson
Councillor Atkins was present as an observer via MS Teams

21-22/EC/6 Apologies

6.1 An apology for absence was received from Councillor M Headley.

21-22/EC/7 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Other Interests

7.1 There were no declarations of interests.

21-22/EC/8 Communications

8.1 There were no communications to report.

21-22/EC/9 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meetings held on 11 May and 9 July 2021 be confirmed as a true record.

21-22/EC/10 Public Participation

- 10.1 Members noted that no questions had been received in accordance with the public participation scheme approved at the meeting of the Fire and Rescue Authority held on 5 April 2000 (Minute 99/fa/94 refers).

21-22/EC/11 Allocation of Portfolio Holders

- 11.1 The Chair reported that Executive Members had been asked to express a preference as to which Portfolio they would prefer. As no responses had been received, he had allocated the Portfolio areas as follows:

Prevention and Protection: Councillor K Choudhry

Emergency Response and Resilience: Councillor J Chatterley

Workforce and Organisational Development: Councillor Y Waheed

Assets and Collaboration: Councillor D McVicar

Data and Digital Transformation: Councillor M Headley

- 11.2 The Committee noted that changes had been made to the Portfolio areas to cover a broader range of activities undertaken by the Service and so that these areas were more closely aligned to the strategic assessment, the Community Risk Management Plan and the HMICFRS inspection areas.
- 11.3 It was noted that there was no specific Portfolio area for equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) as this cut across every area and should not be considered in isolation. The Service had prepared an EDI statement as part of the inspection and this would be circulated to all Members of the Executive for information.
- 11.4 The Chief Fire Officer advised that, subject to the completion of appointments to senior leadership posts, he would provide a structure chart to each Portfolio Holder which would identify their main points of contact within the Service.

RESOLVED:

That the Portfolio allocations be agreed as follows:

Prevention and Protection: Councillor K Choudhry

Emergency Response and Resilience: Councillor J Chatterley

Workforce and Organisational Development: Councillor Y Waheed

Assets and Collaboration: Councillor D McVicar

Data and Digital Transformation: Councillor M Headley

21-22/EC/12 Immediate Detriment Position

- 12.1 The Assistant Chief Officer provided an update following previous discussions on immediate detriment. The Home Office had provided additional guidance; however, the final guidance and framework would not be issued until the end of August 2021. The Local Government Association had advised that Services should wait for the framework to be issued. As such, the Assistant Chief Officer would prepare a report for the next meeting of the Committee.
- 12.2 The Fire Brigades Union had indicated that two of its members would be submitting complaints via the Internal Disputes Resolution process. This may result in appeals to a Member panel.
- 12.3 As reported to the full Authority, the Service had been awarded £36,000 to assist in the administration of claims. Additional HR resource would be funded through this grant. The Authority's pension administrators had indicated that there may be a £1200- £1500 charge per individual calculation required. This would be in addition to the charge relating to the new software package that would be required to make these calculations.
- 12.4 It was noted that there were in the region of 21-22 relevant retirements forthcoming.

RESOLVED:

That an update on immediate detriment be provided to the next meeting of the Executive.

21-22/EC/13 Work Programme

- 13.1 The Executive received its current work programme and noted that a Scheme of Delegation review had been added to the October meeting at the request of the Chair.
- 13.2 The Chair requested that any suggestions of items to be included on the work programme should be submitted to him or Nicky Upton.
- 13.3 Members discussed the website and agreed that it required updating. Councillor Waheed requested that Members be sent a link to the calendar setting out the Service's seasonal public safety campaigns.

13.4 The Chair advised that the Executive's terms of reference would be circulated to all Members of the Executive for information.

RESOLVED:

That the Work Programme be received and the cyclical agenda items be noted.

21-22/EC/14 Abatement Discussion

RESOLVED:

That, pursuant to Sections 100A(2) and 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the discussion of the following item on the grounds that the matters to be discussed involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended):

Item

Abatement Discussion

(Please note: the Chief Fire Officer left the meeting and took no part in the discussion of the confidential item.)

The meeting ended at 12.54 pm