

## HUMBERSIDE FIRE AUTHORITY

16 DECEMBER 2013

### PRESENT:

#### Representing East Riding of Yorkshire Council:

Councillors Engall MBE, Hodgson, Ibson, Mole, Moore and Whittle

#### Representing Kingston upon Hull City Council:

Councillors Armstrong, Gemmell OBE, Petrini, Quinn and S Walker

#### Representing North Lincolnshire Council

Councillors Briggs (Chairperson), Swift, Waltham and Vickers

#### Representing North East Lincolnshire Council:

Councillors Baxter, Wilson and T. Walker

Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive, Deputy Chief Officer/Director of Operations, Secretary/Director of People, Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer, Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety, Committee Manager and Ms J Rae (External Audit - KPMG) were also present.

Mr D Hughes, Chairperson of Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee and Mr M Allingham, Mrs G Hardy, Mr J Jepson, Mrs A Thomlinson and Mr C Vertigans (Independent Co-opted Members) also attended as observers.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Chapman MBE, Mathieson, Turner and Wallace.

The meeting was held at the Humberside Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Kingston upon Hull. Meeting commenced at 10.30 a.m.

**4361 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – The Deputy Fire Officer/Director of Operations and Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety declared a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item No. 21 (Senior Appointments) and stated that they would leave the meeting for that item.

**4362 MINUTES** – The minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 29 October 2013 were submitted.

A Member referred to Minute 4317 (Annual Conference of Combined Fire Authorities) and sought clarification regarding the reference in the examples of wider transformation to 'sharing back office functions'. The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive stated that no specific information was yet available as to what was meant. A Member also queried the basis on which the Minister had based his statement that 'the retained duty system is the backbone of the fire and rescue service in great swathes of the country' and 'whether more stations could now be crewed by on call firefighters' and also whether the Minister had all the necessary information, including times when retained duty vehicles were off the run. The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive stated that the Minister had visited 15 Services and given had been supplied with the detailed information he had sought when visiting Humberside Fire and Rescue Service and he had no doubt that a similar approach would have been taken when visiting the other Services. A Member asked if information was available as to when Retained Stations were on/off duty. The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive confirmed that data was available and undertook to circulate the information to Members.

**Resolved** - That, subject in Minute 4323 (Community Safety – Events/ Developments of Special Interest) to the substitution of "2014" for "2013" in the final line of the preamble, the minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 29 October 2013 having

been printed and circulated amongst the Members, be taken as read and correctly recorded and be signed by the Chairperson.

**4363 PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS** - The Secretary/Director of People stated that no petitions had been received and no requests for a deputation had been received under Rule 12, Part 4 of the Constitution.

**4364 COMMUNICATIONS** - The Secretary/Director of People stated that no communications had been received. The Chairperson welcomed the Independent Co-opted Members of the Governance and Scrutiny Committee and Ms J Rae (KPMG) and all other persons present to observe the meeting. The Chairperson stated that the Deputy Fire Officer/Director of Operations and himself had attended a recent blue light conference in London and that the Minister for the Fire Service had simply stated that he had nothing to report yet regarding the Government's response to Sir Nick Knight's report but that the response would be published either by the end of the year or early Spring 2014. The Chairperson stated that a report would be submitted to the Fire Authority when the Government's response was known.

**4365 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS** - The Secretary/Director of People stated that no questions had been received from Members in accordance with Rule 12, Part 4 of the Constitution.

#### **MINUTES OF COMMITTEES**

**4366 Appointments Committee - Resolved** – That the minutes of the Appointments Committee held on 29 October 2013 be received.

**4367 Appointments Committee** - The minutes of the Appointments Committee held on 26 November 2013 were submitted. The Chairperson stated that the recommendations with regard to the appointment of a Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive (Minute 4335 refers) and also the appointment of a Deputy Fire Officer (Minute 4336 refers) would be considered under Agenda Item No. 21 (Minutes 4383 and 4384 below refer).

**Resolved** – That the minutes of the Appointments Committee held on 26 November 2013 be received.

**4368 Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee** – Mr D Hughes, Chairperson of the Governance, Audit & Scrutiny Committee presented a report summarising the salient points arising from the Governance, Audit & Scrutiny Committee Members' discussion of reports on the Agenda for the meeting held on 3 December 2013. The report was to be read in conjunction with the draft minutes of the Committee. The report drew the attention of the Authority to the discussion by Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee Members on the following items:

- Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising from the HFA Agenda (Minute 4340 refers)
- Internal Audit (Minutes 4343-4346 refer)
- Developing the Operational Training Infrastructure (Minute 4356 refers)
- Exempt Business – HFR Solutions' Performance Summary Report (Minute 4348 refers) – Attention was specifically drawn to the initial points raised by the Independent Members of the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee on the draft HFR Solutions' Business Plan - December 2013 attached to the report now submitted.
- Treasury Management Mid-Year Update Report 2013/14 (Minute 4350 refers)

Mr Hughes then presented the minutes of that Committee held on 3 December 2013. The Chairperson of the Fire Authority thanked Mr Hughes for his report.

**Resolved** – That the report be noted and that the minutes of the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee held on 3 December 2013 be received.

## EXTERNAL AUDIT

**4369 External Audit Progress Report and Technical Update** – Ms J Rae (KPMG) submitted a report providing an overview on progress in delivering KPMG's responsibilities as external auditors. The report also highlighted the main technical issues which were currently having an impact in local government. At the end of each stage of the audit KPMG issued certain deliverables, including reports and opinions. A summary of those deliverables for the 2013/14 audit was provided in Appendix 1 to the report. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4341 refers).

**Resolved** – That the report be noted.

**4370 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS TO 31 OCTOBER 2013** – The Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer submitted a report containing the Authority's Management Accounts and Prudential Indicators for the period ending 31 October 2013. The summary estimated outturn position from the Management Accounts and Prudential Indicators was as follows:

- Revenue Budget - £1.096m underspend;
- Capital Programme - £5.317m total expenditure against an allocation of £10.786m;
- Pensions Account - £7.464m deficit.

The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4349 refers).

**Resolved** – That Members take assurance from the report and the Authority's financial position for the period ending 31 October 2013.

**4371 TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR UPDATE REPORT 2013/14** – The Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer submitted a report providing an update on the Authority's treasury management activities for the first half of the financial year 2013/14. The report showed complete compliance with the Authority's Capital Expenditure and Treasury Management Prudential Indicators and also investment returns in line with the benchmark rate of return provided by Capita Asset Services. The Authority on 15 March 2013 had approved the annual Treasury Management Policy Statement and agreed a range of Prudential Indicators as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, aimed at ensuring effective treasury management and affordability of capital plans. The report ensured compliance with recommended practice as outlined in the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIFPA) Code of Practice on Treasury Management and the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2008, by providing Members with an update on treasury management undertaken since the beginning of the financial year and highlighting key Prudential Indicator information. During the period April to September 2013, the Authority had operated wholly within the limits approved. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4350 refers). The Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer referred to the training that he had arranged for Capita Asset Services to provide for the Independent Co-opted Members of the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny after the next meeting of that Committee on 4th February 2014 and stated that all Members of the Authority were welcome to attend and that he would circulate details in due course.

A Member referred to the references on page 52 of the report regarding increased employment rates and stated that many of the new jobs being created were on zero hours contracts and were not full time jobs.

**Resolved** - (a) That Members note the treasury management activities undertaken during the first half of 2013/14 and the Prudential Indicators as outlined in paragraphs 33 and 34 and detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, and

(b) that Prudential indicators continue to be monitored on a monthly basis and reported to Members as part of the monthly 'Management Accounts and Prudential Indicators' report.

**4372 FINANCIAL PLANNING 2014/15 ONWARDS** – The Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer submitted a report considering the Authority's Revenue Budget for the period 2014/15 onwards. The current financial position of the Authority was sound but there would be significant challenges to that position in the medium-term. The latest position on the Authority's Revenue Budget for 2014/15 onwards was set out in Appendix 1 to the report. The key assumptions that had been incorporated into the budget were included in Table 1 to the report. In summary, the financial projections for the next three financial years after 2013/14 were as follows:

2014/15	Balanced budget;
2015/16	£2.5m deficit;
2016/17	£5.7m deficit.

The requirement to make further efficiencies would continue into the medium-term. There was now reasonable certainty over the deficit of £2.5m projected for 2015/16. This was a reflection to a large extent of the following:

	<u>£m</u>
Efficiencies generated over 2011/2012/2013	5.0
Reduction in external funding 2011-2016	7.2
Shortfall in efficiencies	<u>2.2</u>

The report stated that the Authority must continue to make efficiencies at least in line with the reduction in external funding, in order to maintain a balanced budget. The analysis above showed that the delivery of further efficiencies would be required early in 2014 to keep up with falls in external support from Government and therefore balance the budget for 2015/16. The period 2016/17 onwards offered no better news and looked equally challenging through to at least 2020. At the time of the meeting the local government finance settlement for 2014/15 and 2015/16 had not been announced but when received a briefing note would be circulated before the Christmas break to cover the key headlines for Humberside Fire Authority. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4351 refers).

A Member sought clarification regarding the financial projections in the report. The Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer confirmed that the figures quoted were accumulative year on year.

**Resolved** - That Members note the report and the financial challenges for the period 2015/16 onwards.

**4373 CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2014/15 ONWARDS – VEHICLES, ESTATES AND IT** – The Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer submitted a report setting out the proposed capital programme for vehicles, estates and IT for 2014/15 onwards. The programme has been developed through the Service's Board structure and approved by the Corporate Management Team (CMT). The summary financial impact of the proposals in the report was as follows:

	2014/15 £m	2015/16 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2018/19 £m
Vehicles					
Heavy	2.940	-	1.400	2.210	1.400
Light	0.357	0.419	0.222	0.222	0.384
Estates	2.345	0.700	0.700	0.700	0.700
IT	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.320
Total	5.962	1.439	2.642	3.452	2.804

The programme once approved would be incorporated into the budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan that will be submitted for approval by Members at the February 2014 Fire Authority. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4352 refers).

**Resolved** - That the capital programme for vehicles, estates and IT for 2014/15 onwards be approved and that it be incorporated into the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2014/15 to 2016/17 that will be considered at the 17 February 2014 Fire Authority meeting.

**4374 PEER CHALLENGE FINAL REPORT** – The Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety submitted a report, further to Minute 4163, presenting the final version of the report setting out the key findings from the Local Government Association’s (LGA) Fire Peer Challenge at Humberside Fire and Rescue Service in March 2013. There had been a number of changes to the report resulting from comments submitted upon the draft version. Those changes were detailed in Paragraph 6 of the report. The report highlighted strengths and areas to explore in each key area of assessment. Whilst the Peer Challenge Team was of the opinion that “Humberside Fire and Rescue Service provides a high quality service to local citizens and businesses” the Service is always keen to learn and improve and so all of the areas to explore were being considered with a view to improving the Service even further. Any significant improvements resulting from that work will be reported in the Annual Performance Report 2013/14. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4353 refers).

**Resolved** – (a) That Members take assurance as to the steps being taken to continually improve the Service;

(b) that Members approve that the Peer Challenge Report be published on the Service website in the “Our Performance” section, and

(c) that Members approve that the specific action plans not be published on the website, but that they are recorded and managed in the same way as all other Service action plans and made available upon request.

**4375 DRAFT REFRESHED STRATEGIC PLAN AND INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2014-17** – The Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety submitted a report reminding the Committee that the Authority had approved the Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) 2012-16 in December 2012 and the Strategic Plan 2013-16 in July 2013 following respective 12-week periods of consultation. In line with the Service Planning Framework both documents had undergone an annual light touch refresh to reflect relevant changes. At the same time they had been synchronised in terms of the date range they cover, aligning both as 2014-17. That alignment would be maintained in future annual refresh and three yearly fundamental reviews of each document. Both documents were presented in draft form at Appendix 1 to the report. There were no notable changes to the risk profile within the IRMP, although a number of areas had been amended with more up to

date information. There were no significant changes to the Strategic Plan, although the sections which detail the progress since the last Plan had all been updated so the content was different.

With regard to consultation the report stated that the Authority was required to conduct appropriate consultation for its plans and to consider and incorporate relevant comments into the final versions. As this was an annual light touch refresh the consultation would be conducted via the Authority's website on this occasion. Appropriate internal and external stakeholders would be notified that the draft plans were available for comment at [www.humbersidefire.gov.uk](http://www.humbersidefire.gov.uk). The views of consultees would be considered when preparing the final version of the plans. The Authority will have the opportunity to take into account the views of consultees before approving the final versions of the Strategic Plan 2014-17 and IRMP 2014-17. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4355 refers).

A Member referred to the risk region areas and risk ratings 2011 on page 141 of the report and commented that he had noted that the Marfleet risk area was assessed as high risk and yet the Operational Efficiency Programme options that were included in the consultation exercise that was currently underway included downgrading a station in that area. The Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety explained that fire cover was also provided from other areas. A Member referred to page 142 of the report and queried how risk areas were drawn up. The Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety explained that there was a national model that was followed but acknowledged that the names of risk areas could be changed although the names were predominantly to identify the area covered.

**Resolved** – That Members approve the IRMP 2014-17 and Strategic Plan 2014-17 for consultation.

**4376 DEVELOPING THE OPERATIONAL TRAINING INFRASTRUCTURE** – The Deputy Chief Officer/Director of Operations submitted a report indicating that over recent years the diversity of Humberside Fire and Rescue Service's (HFRS) operational response had expanded greatly. That diversity in areas such as water rescue, flood response, marine response and technical rescue now formed a critical aspect of a holistic approach to community protection in mitigating the impacts of large scale or complex emergencies. Whilst that expansion of operational response capability had been introduced through the provision of high quality operational equipment, personal protective equipment, procedures and training, the Service's ability to sustain that broader capability within a tightening financial climate would be challenging. The report focussed on proposals to improve the Service's in-house operational training infrastructure in relation to water response, rescue using ropes from height, marine response and incident command to ensure sustainability of a broader operational capability, which was cost effective through the reduction of high year on year revenue costs associated with current training provision through external providers and facilities. Furthermore the development of the Service's training infrastructure in those areas might have benefits for HFR Solutions'. As such the report had been developed in the context of the sustainability of HFRS's wide ranging response capability with a potential secondary benefit being HFR Solutions' commercial opportunities. Elsewhere on this meeting's Agenda was the draft Business plan for HFR Solutions' which was supported in part by the proposals outlined in the report. The proposals outlined represented a consolidation of plans first brought to Members attention via Member days and/or the HFR Solutions' quarterly performance reports. The report proposed five areas of infrastructure development:

- Purpose built in-house flood rescue response facility our current favoured site being Peaks Lane Fire Station, Grimsby;
- Purpose built marine fire fighting capability, current favoured sites at Immingham West Fire Station or Humberside International Airport;

- Purpose built height rescue facility at Service Headquarters (SHQ), including re-design of SHQ Stores area to provide an indoor training facility;
- Relocation of Incident Command School to a bespoke facility within SHQ Stores re-design to include training rooms and meeting facilities (including a new Authority meeting room);
- Develop enhanced welfare and teaching facilities at SHQ in order to maximise utilisation of proposed facilities.

The report outlined the current arrangements with regard to Flood Rescue Response, Marine Response, Height Rescue facility, Incident Command Training and Welfare and teaching provision at Service Headquarters. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4356 refers).

A Member sought clarification as to how the proposals fitted in with the redevelopment of facilities at Clough Road Fire Station, Hull. The Deputy Fire Officer/ Director of Operations reminded Members of the proposals for the Clough Road site. A Member sought clarification regarding the start date for the works proposed for Peaks Lane, Grimsby and also that regard had been taken of the community use of the site. The Deputy Fire Officer/ Director of Operations answered the query.

**Resolved** – That approval is given to progress the operational training infrastructure proposals within the report now submitted, namely, HFRS flood rescue response, marine response; height rescue and incident command training facilities using the funding arrangements outlined in paragraph 31 of the report.

*(Councillor Hodgson declared an interest in the following item (Minute 4377) in his capacity as a member of the Board of Yorkshire Ambulance Service).*

**4377 HUMBERSIDE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE MEDICAL RESPONSE PARTNERSHIP WITH YORKSHIRE AMBULANCE SERVICE** – The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive submitted a report reminding Members that as reported to the September 2013 meeting of the Authority the Emergency First Responder Scheme pilot which had commenced in April 2013 at Pocklington had been evaluated and deemed a success. A recent meeting between senior managers of Humberside Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) and Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) had agreed that an expansion of the Emergency First Responder Scheme would benefit the communities involved and would further the objectives of both services. It was agreed that the costs incurred by HFRS for providing this service would be recovered from YAS. It was initially proposed that the scheme be rolled out in seven more locations in the East Riding of Yorkshire and a project team was formed to develop a fully costed proposal for Member approval. As a result of subsequent development work involving senior managers from both services an opportunity to further expand the scheme to a total of ten locations using a phased approach had been identified. A fully costed and detailed proposal covering the proposed scheme had been developed by the project team and a summarised version of that document was attached to the report for approval. Discussions were on-going with personnel on the stations concerned and future discussions were planned with the representative bodies. Further Discussions with East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS) were planned and it was envisaged that the proposed Emergency First Responder Scheme with YAS will form the basis for future discussions with EMAS.

Councillor Hodgson stated, in his capacity as a Board Member of Yorkshire Ambulance Service, that a recent meeting of the Board had welcomed the scheme.

**Resolved** – That Members:

- (i) acknowledge the success of the Pocklington Emergency First Responder Scheme and the work around wider development of the scheme;

- (ii) acknowledge the benefits of the Emergency First Responder Scheme to local communities and in promoting blue light interoperability; and
- (iii) approve the phased introduction of the proposed Emergency First Response Scheme on a cost recovery basis as outlined within the proposal attached to the report now submitted.

**4378 COMMISSIONING INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES** – The Secretary/Director of People and Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer submitted a report reminding the Committee that the Fire Authority had approved the tendering for internal audit services from 1 April 2014 and also approved the composition of the Panel to take this forward. The report set out a different approach to commissioning, which arises, in part, from membership of the Cabinet Office Commissioning Academy. The draft timetable for the tender process was attached as Appendix 1 to the report. The expectation was that the process would conclude in March 2014. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4357 refers).

**Resolved** – That, subject to the timetable in Appendix 1 to the report being amended to note that the Supplier Day will take place on 8 January 2014 and that the outcome of the tender process will be submitted for approval by the Authority on 14 March 2014, the Authority endorse the approach set out in the report.

**4379 SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND RISK REPORT FOR THE 2ND QUARTER PERIOD JULY – SEPTEMBER 2013** – The Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety submitted a report providing information relating to the Service’s Performance and Risk Framework as highlighted in the following summary table:

<b>Section 1 – Strategic Risks</b>	
Reduction in external financial support.	No change in risk.
The likely need to reduce the WDS establishment	No change in risk.
Likely changes leading to commissioned services	No change in risk.
<b>Section 2 – Prevention Performance</b>	
Accidental Dwelling Fires	12% better than target.
Other Accidental Fires (exc Vehicles)	4.7% better than target.
Deliberate Primary Fires	14.7% better than target.
Deliberate Secondary Fires	7.3% better than target.
Number of Automatic Fire Alarms	17.6% better than target.
Fatalities	1 fatality against aspirational target of zero.
Injuries	26 injuries against aspirational target of zero.
<b>Section 3 – Response Performance</b>	
First engine response	8.2% better than target
Second engine response	12% better than target
<b>Section 4 – Projects Update</b>	
Key projects are reported in this section	
<b>Section 5 – Absence Statistics</b>	
Key data is reported in this section	

Further detailed information was contained within the body of the report. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4354 refers).

A Member referred to page 177 and queried whether a zero target for fatalities and injuries was realistic. The Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety explained that the

Service would continually strive for zero incidents but that such incidents were analyzed and if any specific trends in risks/causes were identified they were discussed with the partner agencies. A Member referred to page 205 regarding delays in implementing the Wide Area Network and queried whether the delay was having any operational impact. The Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer stated that the project was now completed except for one site which requires civil engineering works to allow completion. A Member referred to prevention performance set out on page 177 of the report which was all better than target and queried whether there was any correlation between the preventative work undertaken by the Service and the number of incidents. The Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety undertook to circulate to Members data that was available. A Member queried whether the service still installed fire detectors on request. The Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety stated that they were only provided following a risk assessment.

**Resolved** – (a) That the Authority takes assurance as to the Service’s proactive approach to performance and risk management, and

(b) that Members acknowledge all the Teams effectiveness in meeting the standards.

**4380 OPERATIONS (RESPONSE) - INCIDENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST** – The Deputy Chief Officer/Director of Operations submitted a report outlining details of incidents of special interest for the last quarterly period as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

In response to a query by a Member the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive reported orally with regard to the actions taken by the Service in preparing for and responding to the recent tidal surge flooding in the Service area. The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive paid tribute to the remarkable work undertaken by Area Manager Jackson in organising deployments during the period of the incident. The Service had carried out approximately 190 rescues during the incident. Members commented that further high Spring tides were forecast for January 2014. The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive stated that the tidal surge had arisen due to a combination of three factors; a strong north westerly wind, an area of low pressure and a high tide.

**Resolved** – (a) That Members note the contents of the report as a quarterly update of incidents of special interest, and

(b) that an acknowledgment of Members’ thanks be conveyed to all teams involved in the incidents now reported.

**4381 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – Resolved** – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items (Minutes 4382-4384) on the grounds that it they are likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

*(In making its decision the Authority confirmed that having regard to all the circumstances it was satisfied that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information).*

**4382 HFR SOLUTIONS’ PERFORMANCE SUMMARY REPORT** – The Deputy Chief Officer/Director of HFR Solutions outlining the performance of HFR Solutions’ operations and service delivery within the four main areas of activity: Business; Training, Community and Risk for the period July – September 2013. Details of the financial performance of HFR Solutions in 2012/13 (actual) and 2013/14 (year-end projection) were set out in Appendix 1 to the report. A draft Business Plan was attached at Appendix 2 to the report. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4348 refers).

In reply to a query by a Member the Deputy Fire Officer/Director of Solutions’ clarified the position regarding the employment of apprentices.

**Resolved** – (a) That the Authority takes assurance from the report that:

- HFR Solutions' is developing into a successful business, which is capable of effectively supporting Humberside Fire & Rescue Service's operational and community protection service delivery requirements, across both business and residential communities of the area, and
- the Business Plan set out in Appendix 2 to the report reflects the activity of the company to date and sets out its aspirations for future success.

## **SENIOR APPOINTMENTS**

*(The Deputy Fire Officer/Director of Operations and the Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety left the meeting for the consideration of the following items (Minutes 4383 and 4384 below).*

**4383 Appointment of Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive** – The Chairperson presented the recommendation of the Appointments Committee held on 26 November 2013 regarding the appointment of a Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive (Minute 4335 refers).

**Resolved** - That Members ratify the appointment of Mr D Sanders as Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive to take effect on 1 April 2014.

**4384 Appointment of Deputy Chief Fire Officer** – The Chairperson presented the recommendation of the Appointments Committee held on 26 November 2013 regarding the appointment of a Deputy Fire Officer (Minute 4336 refers). The Chairperson explained that whilst the filling of that post was not technically within the remit of the Appointments Committee that Committee felt, having conducted the interviews for the post of Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive, that it was appropriate to make a recommendation to the Authority regarding the filling of the post of Deputy Fire Officer.

**Resolved** - That Members ratify the appointment of Mr C Blacksell as Deputy Fire Officer to take effect on 1 April 2014.

*Meeting closed at 12.08 p.m.*