

HUMBERSIDE FIRE AUTHORITY

26 JULY 2013

PRESENT:

Representing East Riding of Yorkshire Council:

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

Representing Kingston upon Hull City Council:

Councillors Armstrong, Gemmell OBE, Mathieson, Petrini and Quinn

Representing North Lincolnshire Council:

Councillors Briggs (Chairperson), Swift and Waltham

Representing North East Lincolnshire Council:

Councillors Wallace, Wilson and T. Walker

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

Mr D Chapman (Independent Co-opted Member) attended in place of Mr D Hughes, Chairperson of Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee. Mrs A Thomlinson, Mr C Vertigans (Independent Co-opted Members) also attended as observers.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Baxter, Chapman MBE and Vickers and S Walker.

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

4219 FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES – The Chairperson referred to the recent fire incidents which had resulted in the death of one firefighter in Manchester and nineteen firefighters in America. Councillors stood in silence as a mark of respect.

4220 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive declared an interest in Agenda Item No. 20 (Accountability of Chief Fire Officer).

4221 MINUTES – Resolved – That subject in Minute 4177 (Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee) to the deletion of the word ‘duplicity’ and the substitution therefor of the word ‘duplication’ the minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 24 June 2013 having been printed and circulated amongst the Members, be taken as read and correctly recorded and be signed by the Chairperson.

4222 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.

4223 COMMUNICATIONS - The Secretary/Director of People stated that no communications had been received.

4224 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

4225 Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee – Mr D Chapman, in the absence of Mr D Hughes, Chairperson of the Governance, Audit & Scrutiny Committee presented a report by the Chairperson summarising the salient points arising from the Governance, Audit & Scrutiny Committee Members' discussion of reports on the Agenda for the meeting held on 15 July 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:

- Venues for Committee Meetings (Minute 4211 refers)
- Management Accounts 31st May 2013 (Minute 4194 refers)
- Internal Audit Report (Minute 4196 refers)
- Sickness Absence 2012-13 (Minute 4202 refers)

Mr D Chapman then presented the minutes of that Committee held on 15 July 2013. The Chairperson of the Fire Authority thanked Mr Chapman for his report and asked that he take back to the Committee the Authority's appreciation of the work the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee is doing.

Resolved – (a) That the Authority notes the report by the Chairperson of the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee bringing matters to the attention of the Elected Members, and

(b) that the minutes of the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee held on 15 July 2013 be received.

4226 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS TO 30 JUNE 2013 - The Secretary/Director of People presented a report by the Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer containing the Authority's Management Accounts and Prudential Indicators for the period ending 30 June 2013. The summary estimated outturn position from the Management Accounts and Prudential Indicators was as follows:

- Revenue Budget - £42k underspend;
- Capital Programme - £9.127m total expenditure against an allocation of £10.711m;
- Pensions Account - £9.307m deficit

A Member referred to the Pension Account Statement on page 32 of the accounts and sought clarification of the statement that the Authority has to stand any cash flow losses until the balance of the grant is paid in full in July 2014. The Secretary/Director of People confirmed that that was the case and that the Authority could stand that position.

Resolved – That Members take assurance from the report and the Authority's financial position for the period ending 30 June 2013.

EXTERNAL AUDIT

4227 Progress Report 2012/13 – Ms J Rae (External Audit, KPMG) submitted a progress report indicating that KPMG had completed the planning and control evaluation phases of the four stage audit approach outlined in the Audit Plan presented to the Committee in February 2013 and had carried out their interim audit and discussed the findings with management. KPMG had not identified any significant control weaknesses as reported in a letter to the Fire Authority which was received at the June 2013 meeting. KPMG were currently undertaking their substantive testing of the financial statements and would present the Audit Highlights Memorandum (ISA 260 Report), to the Fire Authority on 27 September 2013. The report also indicated that as this was the first year that the Authority had prepared Group Accounts to consolidate the accounts of 'HFR Solutions' additional audit work was

required which was not included in the original Audit Plan and scale fee set by the Audit Commission and consequently an additional fee of £1,074 had been agreed with the Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer. Ms Rae stated that the increase in the fee had yet to be agreed by the Audit Commission. In terms of the Value for Money (VFM) audit KPMG were currently carrying out their assessment of the Authority's arrangements to secure value for money and ensure financial resilience. The report also included a calendar of key dates for the Audit Plan. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4195 refers).

Resolved – That Members note the report and look forward to receiving future updates.

INTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS

4228 Annual Performance Report 2012/13 – The Secretary/Director of People presented a report by Ms Y Mehmood (H W Controls & Assurance) setting out the annual Internal Audit performance against set targets for the financial year 2012/13. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4196 refers). The Secretary/Director of People reminded Members that this was the third year of the three year contract awarded to H W Controls & Assurance and that in the Autumn the Authority will consider the procurement of internal audit services.

Resolved – (a) That the report be noted, and

(b) that H W Controls & Assurance be informed that the Authority expects that a representative of the company will be in attendance at future meetings of the Fire Authority where internal audit reports are to be considered.

4229 COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW (CSR) 2015/16 – The Secretary/Director of People presented a report by the Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer updating Members on the key messages from the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) 2015/16 announcement on 26 June 2013. The report highlighted the main likely impacts for English Fire and Rescue Services (FRSs) and Humberside Fire Authority. A letter from Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) dated 26 June 2013 with regard to the 2015/16 Spending Round was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. The letter stated that "From the 10% reduction that would otherwise be applied to fire and rescue authority funding, a £30 million (2.5%) resource fund will be available on a bid-for basis through the local government settlement to encourage joint working between fire and rescue authorities, collaboration with other blue lights services and help to meet up-front costs of service transformation". Clarification had been sought from DCLG by the Fire Finance Network on whether funding for English FRSs will be reduced by 10% or 7.5% before the £30m collaboration bidding process is undertaken. £45m of capital funding had been confirmed for FRSs for 2015/16. This was lower than the £75m a year that had been made available in the years 2011/12 to 2014/15. The mechanism for the allocation of the £45m was not yet clear. An outline of the Council Tax mechanism for 2014/15 and 2015/16 was set out as follows:

- Referendum limit 2% - 2014/15 and 2015/16
- Grant equal to a 1% increase for those authorities that freeze or reduce council tax - 2014/15 and 2015/16

Confirmation was also given that freeze grants would continue to be provided in 2015/16 for previous council tax freezes. There was no confirmation of whether this would continue for 2016/17 onwards. Public sector pay awards were also expected to average at no more than 1%. The report concluded that the announcement was broadly in line with the Authority's

planning assumptions for 2015/16. A 10% or 7.5% reduction in the Authority's funding for 2015/16 would be a significant challenge with a 10% reduction equal to £2.2m on top of the £5.3m that had been removed from the Authority's funding for 2011/12 to 2014/15. In parallel options on council tax increases were also severely constrained. A further report would be submitted to the September 2013 round of meetings setting out the financial projections for the Authority for 2014/15 onwards in light of the new information and any subsequent clarification over the coming weeks. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4198 refers).

Resolved – That the report be noted.

4230 DRAFT FIRE AUTHORITY RESPONSE TO 'FACING THE FUTURE' - The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive submitted a report, further to Minute 4183, reminding Members that at its meeting on 24 June 2013 the Authority had received a report introducing Sir Ken Knight's report "Facing the Future" and also indicating that the Fire Minister, Brandon Lewis MP, had encouraged Elected Members to comment on the report so he could consider those comments prior to the Government's response in Autumn 2013. Fire Authority Members had formulated a draft response at the Member Day on 5 July 2013. The draft response was attached at Appendix 1 to the report now submitted and the appendices to that draft response were attached at Appendix 2 and Appendix 3. The Authority was asked to approve a final response to be submitted to the Fire Minister. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4199 refers).

It was moved by Councillor Wilson and seconded by Councillor Moore –

"That the draft response set out in Appendix 1 be approved subject to the deletion of the final sentence which commences on page 65 of the report"

It was Moved by the Chairperson (Councillor Briggs) and seconded by the Vice Chairperson (Councillor Engall MBE) as a first amendment –

"That the draft response be approved as printed."

Councillor Wallace gave notice of a second amendment, seconded by Councillor Petrini –

"That the draft response set out in Appendix 1 be approved subject to the deletion of words 'by industrial action' from the final sentence which commences on page 65 of the report"

A discussion ensued during which Councillor Wilson indicated that he would withdraw his original proposition.

Councillor Moore gave notice of a third amendment, seconded by Councillor Gemmell –

"That the draft response set out in Appendix 1 be approved subject to the deletion of the final sentence which commences on page 65 of the report and the substitution therefor of the words 'To ensure that Community safety cannot be compromised that management and trade unions should sit down together to attempt to resolve the situation'.

The Secretary/Director of People explained that in view of the withdrawal of the original proposition the First Amendment became the proposition against which the subsequent amendments would be considered.

The Secretary/Director of People put to the vote the amendment moved by Councillor Wallace and seconded by Councillor Petrini –

“That the draft response set out in Appendix 1 be approved subject to the deletion of words ‘by industrial action’ from the final sentence which commences on page 65 of the report”

The voting on the Amendment was: For 8, Against 10

Amendment Lost

The Secretary/Director of People put to the vote the amendment moved by Councillor Moore and seconded by Councillor Gemmell –

“That the draft response set out in Appendix 1 be approved subject to the deletion of the final sentence which commences on page 65 of the report and the substitution therefor of the words ‘To ensure that Community safety cannot be compromised that management and trade unions should sit down together to attempt to resolve the situation’.

The voting on the Amendment was: For 2, Against 11, Abstained 5

Amendment Lost

The Secretary/Director of People put to the vote the amendment moved by the Chairperson (Councillor Briggs) and seconded by the Vice-Chairperson (Councillor Engall) which had become the Motion –

“That the draft response be approved as printed.”

The voting on the Motion was: For 10, Against 7, Abstained 1

Motion Carried

Resolved – That the draft response as set out in Appendix 1 to the report now submitted be approved as printed.

4231 TRADE DISPUTE: PENSIONS IN THE FIRE SERVICE - The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive submitted a report reminding Members that in 2011 Lord Hutton had recommended sweeping changes to public sector pension schemes with the aim of making them affordable and sustainable. The Government had put forward firm proposals to amend the Firefighters’ Pension Scheme (and the New Firefighters’ Pension Scheme) in line with Lord Hutton’s recommendations. Discussions with the Fire Brigades’ Union (FBU) and with the Fire Officers’ Association (FOA) had been on-going for about two years but agreement had yet to be reached. In April 2013 the Fire Minister made a final offer to the representative bodies which was subsequently rejected. On 10th July 2013 the FBU advised the Employers’ Side of the National Joint Council (NJC) that they would ballot their members for strike action and that the ballot would open on 18th July 2013, closing on 29th August 2013. A copy NJC Circular EMP/10/13 dated 11 July 2013 with regard to the ballot was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. The FOA had registered a dispute with the Employers’ Side of the NJC over the same issues but had made it clear that they were not resorting to a ballot for industrial action at this time as indicated in the attachments at Appendix 2 to the report. The Employers’ had stated that the current disputes were not with themselves but with the Government as it was the Government who had made the changes to the pension schemes. The Chief Fire Officers’ Association (CFOA) could not endorse industrial action that might put communities at risk and had urged both sides to resume talks with a view to finding a resolution to the disputes. The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive fully supported the CFOA position and additionally had advised all personnel to consider all available information before making a decision on this important matter. Humberside Fire and Rescue Service had comprehensive business continuity arrangements in place and those plans were being

reviewed by the Corporate Management Team with the aim of providing a basic fire and rescue capability in the unfortunate event that strike action should take place. Members would be kept informed of any significant developments.

Resolved - That Members note the report and take assurance that the Corporate Management Team are dealing with business continuity arrangements.

4232 MEDICAL RESPONSE: TRIALS POCKLINGTON AND GRIMSBY - The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive submitted a report updating Members on the progress made so far during the medical response trials taking place at Pocklington and Grimsby. Participating staff had been trained and provided with a response vehicle. Both schemes had been in place since April 2013 and both have been deployed to medical emergencies. Feedback from participating staff had been positive. Recent discussions with Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) concluded with agreement to form a working group to identify further opportunities for collaboration. Firefighters in Scunthorpe had expressed interest in crewing a medical response car therefore research was underway to see if that is feasible. The North East Lincolnshire LIVES Response scheme had stimulated a great deal of interest amongst firefighters. In view of this the scheme was likely to be expanded to cover the whole of Northern Lincolnshire. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4205 refers).

Members commented on the attendance times of the Ambulance Service and expressed concerns that this could mean that firefighters attending a medical response could be on the scene for some considerable time waiting for the Ambulance to arrive.

Resolved - That Members endorse further discussions with Yorkshire Ambulance Service and North East Lincolnshire LIVES with a view to exploring further collaborative opportunities.

4233 DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-16 - The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive submitted a report reminding Members that the Authority at its meeting on 15 March 2013 had approved the draft Strategic Plan 2013-16 to go out for formal consultation. The report summarised the feedback received from the consultation responses and sought approval for the Draft Strategic Plan 2013-16 attached at Appendix 1 to the report to be published as a final document. In total 11 completed questionnaires were received during the 12-week consultation period. The responses to the questionnaire set out in the report and the comments made were shown in Appendix 2 to the report. It was not considered surprising that the response to the consultation had been low as the Authority had undertaken a number of consultations recently, for example around the Vision and Precept. In addition, the Authority was embarking on engagement around the Operational Efficiency Programme, which will undoubtedly generate a much greater response. Whilst the number of responses was fairly low, there were some very detailed responses and a number of changes, as set out in paragraph 9 to the report, had been made to the Draft Plan. A number of suggestions received were not acted upon for the reasons indicated in paragraph 10 to the report. The Authority was asked to take into account the views of consultees before approving the Strategic Plan. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4200 refers).

Resolved – That Members approve the Strategic Plan 2013-16 for publication.

4234 DRAFT ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2012/13 - The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive submitted a report reminding Members that the Fire Authority publishes Annual Performance Reports which include the full performance information for the previous year. The draft report for 2012-13 was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. The report incorporated detailed information covering the delivery of the Strategic Plan, a 'health check' of the Service and information relating to Preparedness, Prevention, Protection, Response

and Recovery. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4201 refers).

A Member reported that he had noted a number of typographical/grammatical errors in the report and had supplied the details to the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive prior to this meeting.

Resolved – (a) That Members note the report and take assurance from the proactive approach to performance management, and

(b) that, subject to the correction of typographical/grammatical errors, the Annual Performance Report be approved for publication.

4235 PERFORMANCE REPORTING AND SERVICE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

2013-14 - The Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety submitted a report providing information regarding the reporting of Service performance for the period 2013-14 and the proposed Service Performance Indicators for that period which were included at Appendix 1 to the report. Performance against all of the Authority's Strategic Objectives would be monitored and reported to the Authority on a quarterly basis following scrutiny by this Committee. The Authority would receive three quarterly reports, followed by the Annual Performance Report which would incorporate performance information from the fourth quarter. This was in line with the reporting for 2012-13 and the Annual Performance Report for that period which was elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting (Minute 4234 above refers). The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4203 refers).

Resolved – (a) That Members endorse the approach for reporting performance, and

(b) that Members approve the Service Performance Indicators and Targets for 2013-14.

4236 COMMUNITY SAFETY – EVENTS / DEVELOPMENTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST -

The Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety submitted a report outlining details of recent events and developments relating to the safety of the Authority's communities. The performance of the Safety Directorate in respect of the targets for incident reduction had been reported separately to the Authority (Minute 4235 above refers).

The Chairperson reminded Members of the excellent Fire and Rescue Day held at Crowle Lakes on 13th July 2013 and on behalf of the Authority expressed his thanks to all those who participated in the event.

Resolved - That Members note the content of the report as an update of community safety events and developments of special interest.

4237 DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (CLG) – GUIDE FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

- The Secretary/Director of People submitted a report indicating that CLG had released guidance in June 2013 called 'Your council's cabinet – going to its meetings, seeing how it works'. A copy of the guidance was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. Whilst the guidance was aimed directly at local authority 'Cabinet' governance structures (and therefore more relevant to the four constituent authorities) there were a number of parallels, particularly around openness and accountability. The report stated that this Committee should be aware of the Guidance, how it might apply to the Fire Authority and to what extent the Authority should give further consideration to the following themes:

- Exempt Information
- Filming of Meetings
- Tweeting/Blogging

- Knowing About a Public Meeting
- Key Decisions
- Decisions – Records

In terms of the Fire Authority then so far as the Guidance was applicable to the Authority, then the Authority was fully compliant. In respect to internal decisions, for example Corporate Management Team or an internal Board, then decisions were made available internally (by minutes and action logs). The external release would be subject to normal Freedom of Information rules. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4204 refers). The Secretary/Director of People suggested that in terms of those matters which the Authority should give further consideration to i.e. Tweeting/Blogging it might be appropriate in the first instance for the Chairperson and Group Secretaries to look at any issues arising from the guidance and report to the Fire Authority, at the meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Resolved – That the report be noted and that the Chairperson and Group Secretaries be asked to look at any issues arising from the guidance and report to the Fire Authority, at the meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting.

(Councillor Quinn left the meeting at 11.52am).

4238 ACCOUNTABILITY OF CHIEF FIRE OFFICER - The Secretary/Director of People submitted a report reminding Members that the new National Framework for Fire and Rescue services effectively sets out the need to put in place arrangements to hold the Chief Fire Officer to account. An extract from the Framework was attached at Appendix 1 to the report. There was no prescribed means by which this should be done and as such it is left to individual authorities to determine. Obviously in a County structure the system is very different. Having consulted with colleagues in other Services, the practice appears to be patchy, with little commonality.

Under the previous Committee structure, the Policy and Executive Committee had responsibility under the Constitution to set and review the performance of the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive and in turn the Corporate Management Team. However the Committee, perhaps for a number of reasons, did not undertake that role but did consider the remuneration of the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive, most recently in 2010. Since 2010, there had been a full review (third) of the corporate governance arrangements of the Authority, culminating in the current governance structure which was approved in April 2012. However at present, other than broadly through the normal reporting to the Authority, there were no annual objectives set or indeed a review of performance subsequently. This was not uncommon in the sector. In respect to all other members of staff, a new appraisal system was being introduced and would be reviewed in due course.

The report set out some options for consideration by the Authority. The options had been discussed with the Chairperson of the authority and then the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive, although clearly this was a matter for the Authority to determine. Given the background outlined in the report, it was recommended that Members should review any process adopted early in Spring 2014, perhaps on that occasion, acting like a mid-year review. That would enable the process to be redefined in readiness for 2014/15. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4215 refers).

Members discussed the options set out in the report.

Resolved – That Members agree that a process should be formalised regarding the review of the performance of the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive and in turn the Corporate Management Team and that the Chairperson and Group Secretaries consider the matter and bring back their recommendations to the September 2013 meeting of the Authority.

4239 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – Resolved – That the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items (Minutes 4240-4243) on the grounds that it is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 4 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).

4240 POTENTIAL COLLABORATION: SOUTH YORKSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE - The Secretary/Director of People submitted a report setting out progress in respect to collaboration discussions with South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service and setting out a number of key considerations and questions. The report set out in very broad terms an outline vision around non-frontline services, along with a suggested phased approach. That vision agreed between both senior management teams (subject to the support of both Authorities) was to explore the establishment of a single merged non-frontline service, supporting both Authorities. All non-frontline services would be in scope. At this stage it was indicative and tentative and not seeking any approval other than support for exploring the potential for collaboration. Members' attention was drawn particularly to the scope of any collaboration and the timing. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4217 refers).

Resolved – That Members endorse the Officers continuing to explore the potential for collaboration.

4241 VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT WORKSHOPS – A report was submitted by the Director of Finance & Assets/ Section 151 Officer and Secretary/Director of People, further to Minute 4187, updating Members on the latest position with regard to workshops collaboration for vehicle and equipment maintenance. The Authority on 24 June 2013 had agreed that Options 1b and 3 be progressed and evaluated against Option 4 and that further information be submitted to this meeting. Appendix 1 to the report showed an analysis for each of the three options that was included in the 24 June Fire Authority report and had been updated based on the latest information

Subsequent to the Agenda papers being distributed the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive had circulated a report on an approach with regard to a possible collaboration with Humberside Police and Yorkshire Ambulance Service for the provision of vehicle & equipment workshops. Humberside Police had asked if the Fire Authority would wish to participate in a feasibility study to assess the possibility of providing a facility that would meet the needs of all three blue light services. The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive had agreed to participate and therefore the Authority was asked to defer a decision on the three options laid out in the initial report until the study had been completed. The overall aim of the workshop project was unchanged; that was to provide a modern vehicle equipment workshop that will ensure the availability of appliances and equipment. In addition to that aim the Humberside Fire and Rescue Service was now presented with a unique opportunity to fully integrate a key support function across three blue light services, which could place Humberside at the forefront of collaborative working and demonstrate a genuine will to provide an effective integrated and efficient service.

Resolved - That Members defer a decision on the options for the provision of Vehicle and Equipment Workshops until further information is presented at the September 2013 meeting of the Fire Authority.

(Councillor Gemmell declared an interest in the following item (Minute 4242) as his brother is an employee of British Aerospace although such interest was not a disclosable interest under the Code of Conduct).

4242 BROUGH FIRE STATION – RELOCATION - The Deputy Chief Officer/Director of Operations and Director of Finance & Assets/Section 151 Officer submitted a report reminding Members that since BAe Systems (BAe) announced the planned closure of their site at Brough in September 2011, the Service had undertaken significant work to determine suitable alternative locations to enable the provision of a station facility in order to ensure the necessary continuity of fire service provision for Brough and the surrounding area. The report provided Members with an update on the negotiations that had been undertaken with BAe with respect to the potential for maintaining an operational fire station on site; detailed the two viable options identified and requested approval to progress with a new build facility on the preferred location. The report had previously been considered by the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee (Minute 4218 refers). The total scheme costs of the preferred Option were estimated at £1.2m and it proposed that that amount be released from the Brough earmarked reserve.

Resolved – (a) That Members of this Committee endorse Option 1 as the best long term proposition, and

(b) approve the release of £1.2m from the Brough earmarked reserve.

4243 SERIOUS CASE REVIEW – The Assistant Chief Officer/Director of Safety reported orally on the outcome of a Serious Case Review that had just been completed and stated that a report would be submitted to the next meeting.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

Meeting closed at 12.12pm