

Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee
29 January 2018

Report by Chairperson and
Monitoring Officer/Secretary

**UPDATE: MATTERS ARISING/
FEEDBACK FROM FIRE AUTHORITY**

REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee has previously agreed that it would be desirable to receive feedback from meetings of the Authority, particularly where the Committee had made recommendations to the Authority. The report also draws attention to matters considered by the Authority at its meeting on 8 December 2017 which may be of interest to this Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Committee is asked to consider this report.

FEEDBACK FROM THE FIRE AUTHORITY

2. The following summarises the consideration given by the HFA at its meeting on 8 December 2017 to the draft minutes of the meeting of the GAS Committee held on 27 November 2017.

Minute	Feedback/Update
<p><u>Scrutiny Work Programme 2017/18 – Scrutiny Programme – Implementation of Review Outcomes - Feedback</u> (Minute 5654 refers) - The Committee agreed - That a report be submitted to the meeting of this Committee in January 2018 giving feedback on all reviews to date and for subsequent reviews a feedback report should be provided to this Committee six months after the completion of a review</p>	<p>The HFA in receiving the minutes noted the decision.</p>
<p><u>Technical Update and Progress Report</u> (Minute 5655 refers) – The Committee agreed - (a) That the report be received, (b) that the ICT Manager be asked to attend the next meeting of this Committee to give an oral update with regard to the implementation of the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations, and (c) that the Committee record their thanks to Ms Rae and Mr Prentice for all the support they have given over the years they have audited the Authority's accounts and extend their best wishes to them both for the future.</p>	<p>The HFA in receiving the minutes noted the decision.</p> <p>With regard to part (b) of the Committee's decision see separate item on the Agenda for this meeting.</p>
<p><u>Treasury Management Mid-Year Update Report 2017/18</u> (Minute 5657 refers) – The Committee agreed - That Members note the treasury management activities undertaken during the first half of 2017/18 and the Prudential Indicators as outlined in paragraphs 14 and 15 and detailed in Appendix 1 to the report now submitted.</p>	<p>The HFA (Minute 5679 refers) agreed - That Members note the treasury management activities undertaken during the first half of 2017/18 and the Prudential Indicators as outlined in paragraphs 15 and 16 and detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.</p>
<p><u>2017/18 Annual Accounts Closedown Timetable</u> (Minute 5658 refers) - The Committee agreed - That the Committee take assurance that the Fire Authority has robust plans in place to produce the Annual Accounts by the required deadlines.</p>	<p>The HFA in receiving the minutes noted the decision.</p>
<p><u>Internal Audit Update</u> (Minute 5659 refers) - The Committee agreed - That the Committee notes Internal Audit progress against the 2017/18 plan as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.</p>	<p>The HFA (Minute 5678 refers) agreed - That the Authority notes Internal Audit progress against the 2017/18 plan as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.</p>
<p><u>Service Performance and Risk Report – 2nd Quarter Period April – September 2017</u> (Minute 5661 refers) - The Committee agreed - That the Committee takes assurance as to the Service's proactive approach to performance and risk management.</p>	<p>The HFA (Minute 5684 refers) agreed - (a) That Members take assurance as to the Service's proactive approach to performance and risk management, and (b) that the possible introduction of charging for attendance at fire alarm false alarms and also an update with regard to the Ark project be discussed at a Member Day.</p>

<p><u>Health, Safety and Environmental Report for the 2nd Quarter Period July – September 2017</u> (Minute 5662 refers) - The Committee agreed - That the Committee notes the report and takes assurance as to the Service's proactive approach to Health, Safety and Environmental outcomes.</p>	<p>The HFA (Minute 5685 refers) agreed - That Members take assurance as to the Service's proactive management of Health, Safety and Environmental outcomes.</p>
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3. The Committee's attention is also drawn to other matters considered by the HFA at its meeting on 8 December 2017 which may be of interest to this Committee, as set out below:

Item	Feedback/Update
<p><u>Review of the Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm (England) Regulations 2015 – Consultation Paper</u> (HFA Minute 5671 refers)</p>	<p>The HFA agreed - That Members note that the Service will respond to the consultation including the following comments:</p> <p><u>Question 9</u> – Do you think that the properties excluded from the regulations are the right ones? If no, please provide details.</p> <p>Response: 7 year leaseholds should not be excluded.</p> <p><u>Question 10</u> - Do you think that the regulations could be improved? If 'yes', please provide details of any improvements needed.</p> <p>Response: Carbon monoxide alarms should be required for gas boilers to protect private sector tenants from death or injury in the home caused by carbon monoxide poisoning.</p>
<p><u>Emergency Services Collaboration: Statutory Duty</u> (HFA Minute 5672 refers)</p>	<p>The HFA agreed - That Members note that a response will be sent which will feature the main collaboration activities undertaken by the Authority.</p>
<p><u>Financial Planning 2018/19 Onwards</u> (HFA Minute 5680 refers)</p>	<p>The HFA agreed - That Members note the report and the financial challenges for the period 2018/19 onwards and that the precept/council tax report be considered at the February 2018 Authority meeting.</p>
<p><u>Capital Programme 2018/19 Onwards – Vehicles, Estates and ICT</u> (HFA Minute 5681 refers)</p>	<p>The HFA agreed - That Members approve the capital programme for vehicles, estates and ICT for 2018/19 onwards and that it is incorporated into the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2018/19 to 2021/22 to be considered at the meeting of the Authority on 12 February 2018.</p>
<p><u>Absence Management – Progress Report</u> (HFA Minute 5682 refers)</p>	<p>The HFA agreed - (a) That Members note the content of the Report and the updated Action Plan and take assurance from the actions taken and planned in the HR Directorate to improve the management of absence and the support offered to staff who are unwell, and (b) that Members look forward to receiving an updated Action Plan at its February 2018 meeting.</p>
<p><u>Strategic Plan and Integrated Risk Management Plan 2018/2021 – Consultation Outcomes</u> (HFA Minute 5683 refers)</p>	<p>The HFA agreed - That Members approve the Strategic Plan 2018/21 and the IRMP 2018/21 for publication on the HFRS website.</p>

<p><u>Member Champions 2017/18</u> (HFA Minute 5686 refers)</p>	<p>The HFA agreed - That Members be allocated to Member Champion Roles as set out below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="879 181 1404 741"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="879 181 1155 241">Role</th> <th data-bbox="1155 181 1404 241">Member Champions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="879 241 1155 338">Value Our People & Equality and Inclusion Steering Group</td> <td data-bbox="1155 241 1404 338">Cllrs Sharpe*, Finlay, Fudge and Waltham MBE</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="879 338 1155 398">Responding Effectively</td> <td data-bbox="1155 338 1404 398">Cllrs Grant, Jefferson, Sherwood and Wilson</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="879 398 1155 459">Support Delivery</td> <td data-bbox="1155 398 1404 459">Cllrs Chadwick and Jackson</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="879 459 1155 555">Make our Communities Safer</td> <td data-bbox="1155 459 1404 555">Cllrs Green, Mathieson, Smith and Turner</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="879 555 1155 616">Manage the Service Financially</td> <td data-bbox="1155 555 1404 616">Cllrs Burton and Shepherd</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="879 616 1155 676">Manage the Service Corporately</td> <td data-bbox="1155 616 1404 676">Cllrs Clarkson and Dad</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="879 676 1155 741">Mental Health and Wellbeing</td> <td data-bbox="1155 676 1404 741">Cllrs Belcher and Sharpe</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>*Existing Member Champion Role</i></p>	Role	Member Champions	Value Our People & Equality and Inclusion Steering Group	Cllrs Sharpe*, Finlay, Fudge and Waltham MBE	Responding Effectively	Cllrs Grant, Jefferson, Sherwood and Wilson	Support Delivery	Cllrs Chadwick and Jackson	Make our Communities Safer	Cllrs Green, Mathieson, Smith and Turner	Manage the Service Financially	Cllrs Burton and Shepherd	Manage the Service Corporately	Cllrs Clarkson and Dad	Mental Health and Wellbeing	Cllrs Belcher and Sharpe
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<p><u>Suspension of Response to Fires at Sea Update</u> (HFA Minute 5687 refers)</p>	<p>The HFA agreed - That Members endorse the ongoing work to raise this issue with local Members of Parliament, with a view to encouraging the MCA to reintroduce helicopter flight training for firefighters.</p>																
<p><u>Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) Update</u> (HFA Minute 5688 refers)</p>	<p>The HFA agreed - That Members take assurance from the approach being taken to prepare for the HMICFRS regime.</p>																
<p><u>Enabling Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) to Sit and Vote On Combined Fire and Rescue Authorities (FRAs) - Government Consultation</u> (HFA Minute 5689 refers)</p>	<p>The HFA agreed - That Members generally support the proposal to vary the combination schemes of FRAs established or continued existence under section 2 and 4 of the 2004 Fire and Rescue Services Act to implement the 'representation model' of the 2017 Act but do not agree with the proposal that would permit the Police and Crime Commissioner to send a substitute to meetings of the Fire Authority as no other Member of the Authority is allowed to send a substitute.</p>																

STRATEGIC PLAN COMPATIBILITY

4. None arising directly.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCES/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

5. As outlined above.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

6. As outlined above.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT/HR IMPLICATIONS

7. None arising.

CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

8. None arising.

HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

9. None arising.

COMMUNICATION ACTIONS ARISING

10. None.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION AND/OR COLLABORATION

11. None.

BACKGROUND PAPERS AVAILABLE FOR ACCESS

12. None.

RECOMMENDATIONS RESTATED

13. The Committee is asked to consider this report.

**M BUCKLEY
D CHAPMAN
(Chairperson, Governance, Audit
and Scrutiny Committee)**

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JS
4 January 2018

