

Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee
15 July 2013

Report by
Secretary/Director of People

**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.

This report summarises the Authority's decisions on those items.

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 to the report presented by the Chair of the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee and the draft minutes of the meeting of the GAS Committee held on 11 June 2013:

Minute	Feedback/Update
<p><u>Appointment of a Vice-Chairperson</u> (Minute 4143 refers) – Members had indicated that they would wish to propose the appointment of Mr D Chapman as Vice-Chairperson of this Committee for the period until the Annual General Meeting of the Humberside Fire Authority in 2014 and agreed that it be a recommendation to the Fire Authority that the role of Vice-Chairperson of the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee be established.</p>	<p>The Fire Authority agreed to refer this matter for discussion by the Group Secretaries to consider and submit their recommendation to the July meeting of the Authority. In discussing the recommendation Members of the Authority commented that there was nothing in the Authority's Constitution which would preclude the Committee from appointing a Vice-Chairperson if it so wished. The Chairperson of the GAS Committee stated that the Committee was not seeking an allowance.</p>
<p><u>Update: Matters Arising/Feedback From Fire Authority – Term of Appointment of Committee Members</u> (Minute 4140 refers) – The Committee had agreed that the term of appointment of the Members of this Committee be referred back to the Fire Authority for further consideration having regard to the concerns now raised.</p>	<p>The Fire Authority agreed to refer this matter for discussion by the Group Secretaries to consider and submit their recommendation to the July meeting of the Authority.</p>
<p><u>'HFR Solutions' – Reporting and Governance Arrangements</u> (Minute 4150 refers) - The Committee agreed that the Authority be informed that it is the view of this Committee that Members of the Authority should not be Directors of 'HFR Solutions' whilst this Committee understands their interest in the company.</p>	<p>The Fire Authority agreed to refer this matter for discussion by the Group Secretaries to consider and submit their recommendation to the July meeting of the Authority.</p>
<p><u>'HFR Solutions' - Options for the Use of the Surplus Generated</u> (Minute 4152 refers) - The Committee congratulated the organisation on an amazing first year and noted the proposed options</p>	<p>That Authority approved the proposed options in respect of 'HFR Solutions' surplus and commended Officers on the initiative to create both a Capital Reserve and a Community Reserve.</p>
<p><u>Workshops Collaboration</u> (Minute 4153 refers) - The Committee encouraged Officers to pursue their analysis of the options.</p>	<p>The Chairperson of the Authority stated that a further update would be given to Members at the next Member Day prior to further discussion at the next meeting of the Authority. The Authority agreed that Options 1b and 3 are progressed and evaluated against Option 4 and further information be brought to the Fire Authority meeting on 26 July 2013 for consideration.</p>

Internal Audit Reports - Annual Report 2012/13	The Committee's view was
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<p>(Minute 4155 refers) and Procurement Review (Minute 4157 refers) Members agreed that it be a recommendation to the Fire Authority that Internal Audit should be asked to consider when they should start moving up the traffic light monitoring system items previously reported but not yet undertaken.</p>	<p>endorsed by the Authority</p>
<p><u>4164 Findings of The Review of Efficiencies and Operations In Fire And Rescue Authorities In England</u> (Minute 4164 refers) - A Member of the Committee had expressed his disappointment at Sir Ken Knight's report and queried whether Members of this Committee might have some input into the draft response. The Secretary/Director of People stated that there had been a discussion at the Member Day on 7 June 2013 and that the comments made at that meeting would form the basis of a draft response that will come through this Committee to the Fire Authority in July 2013.</p>	<p>The Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive stated that he had now drafted a first response which he proposed to discuss with the Chairperson and Group Secretaries prior to circulating a copy to all Members of the Authority for comment before a final response was submitted by the end of July 2013.</p> <p>During the discussion of the draft minutes of the meeting of this Committee on 11 June 2013 a Member of the Authority referred to Minute 4164 and the views expressed that Members of the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee might have some input into the draft response to Sir Ken Knight's report and stated that the draft response was a matter for the Authority and that the Committee's role was a scrutinising role, and that it would be a bit of duplicity if that Committee was to be involved in drafting the response. The Chairperson stated that Mr Hughes would take that message back to the Governance, Audit and Scrutiny Committee.</p>

STRATEGIC PLAN COMPATIBILITY

- 3. None arising directly.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCES/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 4. As outlined above.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5. As outlined above.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT/HR IMPLICATIONS

- 6. None arising.

CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

7. None arising.

HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8. None arising.

COMMUNICATION ACTIONS ARISING

9. None.

DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

10. None.

BACKGROUND PAPERS AVAILABLE FOR ACCESS

11. None.

RECOMMENDATIONS RESTATED

12. The Committee is asked to consider this report.

R GRAHAM

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RG/JS
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