

## THE COMPOSITION OF THE FIRE AUTHORITY 2015/16

### SUMMARY

1. The composition of the Authority is determined in accordance with The Humberside Fire Services (Combination Scheme) Order 1995 and the Authority's Constitution having regard to the number of local government electors in each of the four constituent authorities' areas.
2. The size of the Humberside Fire Authority was agreed by the Constituent Authorities prior to 1995 as being 21 and resulted in an allocation of 7 seats to East Riding of Yorkshire Council; 6 seats to Hull City Council; 4 seats each to North Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Council.
3. Following a report to the Fire Authority on 24 April 2009 providing an update of the number of Registered Electors in each of the Constituent Unitary Authority areas Members decided on the basis of that report to approve the option of increasing the size of the Authority to 22 Members.
4. This report provides an annual update to Members in respect to the impact upon its composition arising from any change in the Registered Local Government Electors as at 1 December 2014 as published by the Office for National Statistics.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

5. Member are asked to consider this report and -
  - (i) Approve the composition of the Fire Authority for 2015/16.
  - (ii) Note the appointments to the Fire Authority made by each of the constituent authorities.

### BACKGROUND

6. Members will recall that the Combined Humberside Fire Authority was established by the Combination Order 1995, arising from local government reorganisation (leading to the creation of four unitary authorities from the former Humberside County Council). During the shadow phase during 1994/95, discussions took place which set the initial size of the Humberside Fire Authority at 21. The size was included in the Standing Orders of the Authority, which was revoked in 2008 and replaced by the Constitution.
7. The relevant parts of the Combination Order are:

*"PART III - CONSTITUTION OF COMBINED FIRE AUTHORITY*

*11.—(1) The Authority shall consist of not more than 25 members save that, where the minimum number of members of the Authority resulting from the operation of paragraph 12 would be greater than 25, the Authority shall consist of that number of members.*

*(2) Each member of the Authority shall be appointed by a constituent authority from its own members in accordance with this Part.*

*12. Each constituent authority shall, so far as is practicable, appoint such number of representatives to be members of the Authority as is proportionate to the number of local government electors in its area in relation to the number of such electors in each of the other constituent authorities' areas.*

13. A member of the Authority shall come into office on the date of his appointment and shall, subject to paragraphs 14 to 16, hold office for such period or periods as shall be determined by the constituent authority which appoints him."

8. In April 2009, the Authority considered a number of options arising from a report providing an update on the numbers of registered local government electors. Firstly, to retain a Fire Authority of 21 Members (which would have meant proportionality as:

|                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| East Riding of Yorkshire Council | 8        |
| Hull City Council                | 5        |
| North East Lincolnshire Council  | 4        |
| North Lincolnshire Council       | <u>4</u> |
|                                  | 21       |

Secondly, to increase the size to 22 as that most closely fitted the proportionality arising from changes in the number of Electors. Other options were also considered such as an Authority of a size of 11. The Authority decided to increase the size of the Authority to 22, resulting in proportionality of:

|                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| East Riding of Yorkshire Council | 8        |
| Hull City Council                | 6        |
| North East Lincolnshire Council  | 4        |
| North Lincolnshire Council       | <u>4</u> |
|                                  | 22       |

#### CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED ELECTORS IN THE REGION

9. The attention of Members is drawn to the changes in the number of registered local government electors at 1 December 2014 as set out in Table 1 below, and the number of electors in each constituent authority area as a proportion of the total number of electors in the Humberside Fire Authority area set out in Table 2 below.

Table 1 - Number of Electors in the Region at 1 December 2014

| <u>Unitary Council Area</u>      | <u>Total Local Government Electors</u> | <u>Total Local Government Electors</u> |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
|                                  | <b>1 December 2013</b>                 | <b>1 December 2014</b>                 |
| East Riding of Yorkshire Council | 269,550                                | 264,183                                |
| Hull City Council                | 191,497                                | 180,740                                |
| North East Lincolnshire Council  | 115,645                                | 110,958                                |
| North Lincolnshire Council       | 128,185                                | 124,626                                |
|                                  | <hr/> 704,877                          | <hr/> 680,507                          |

Table 2 - Number of Electors in each Unitary Council area at 1 December 2014 as a proportion of the total electors in the Humberside Fire Authority area

| <u>Area</u> | <u>2014/15</u>                  |                                    |                                    | <u>2015/16</u>                  |                                    |                                    |
|-------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|             | <u>Total Electors (1/12/13)</u> | <u>Proportion Against 22 Seats</u> | <u>Allocation of Seats 2014/15</u> | <u>Total Electors (1/12/14)</u> | <u>Proportion Against 22 Seats</u> | <u>Allocation of Seats 2015/16</u> |
| ERYC        | 38.24%                          | 8.4128                             | 8                                  | 38.82%                          | 8.5404                             | 8                                  |
| HULL        | 27.16%                          | 5.9752                             | 6                                  | 26.56%                          | 5.8432                             | 6                                  |
| NEL         | 16.41%                          | 3.6102                             | 4                                  | 16.31%                          | 3.5882                             | 4                                  |
| NL          | 18.19%                          | 4.0018                             | 4                                  | 18.31%                          | 4.0282                             | 4                                  |
|             | <hr/> 100.00%                   | <hr/> 22                           | <hr/> 22                           | <hr/> 100.00%                   | <hr/> 22                           | <hr/> 22                           |

## APPOINTMENTS TO THE FIRE AUTHORITY BY THE CONSTITUENT UNITARY AUTHORITIES

10. Members are formally appointed to the Humberside Fire Authority by each of the four constituent authorities at their respective annual general meetings, according to rules of political proportionality (or by any local agreement).

11. Subject to the Authority confirming the allocation of seats in respect to 2015/16 as set out in Table 2 above, each constituent authority is allowed to appoint the following number of Members:

|                                  |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| East Riding of Yorkshire Council | : | 8 |
| Kingston upon Hull City Council  | : | 6 |
| North Lincolnshire Council       | : | 4 |
| North East Lincolnshire Council  | : | 4 |

12. While political proportionality is a matter for the nominating Authority, it is understood that the political make-up of the Fire Authority will be as follows:

|                                  |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| East Riding of Yorkshire Council | : | 6 x Conservative<br>1 x Labour<br>1 x Independent |
| Hull City Council                | : | 4 x Labour<br>2 x Liberal Democrat                |
| North East Lincolnshire Council  | : | 1 x Conservative<br>2 x Labour<br>1 x UKIP        |
| North Lincolnshire Council       | : | 3 x Conservative<br>1 x Labour                    |

13. Details of the appointments made by the constituent authorities for 2015/16 are set out in Appendix 1.

### STRATEGIC PLAN COMPATIBILITY

14. One of the agreed current strategic workstreams is in respect to corporate governance. This report reflects the robustness of those arrangements and proposed options for strengthening these arrangements further.

### FINANCIAL/RESOURCES/VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

15. None arising directly.

### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

16. As set out above.

### EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT/HR IMPLICATIONS

17. None arising directly.

### CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

18. This report is designed to further enhance the governance arrangements of the Authority, while ensuring that the Authority is compliant with the Combination Order.

### HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

19. None arising directly.

## COMMUNICATION ACTIONS ARISING

20. Depending upon the decision of the Fire Authority, the Constituent Authorities will need to be notified of the number of seats to which they are entitled to nominate Members.

## DETAILS OF CONSULTATION

21. Chief Fire Officer/Chief Executive and Statutory S.151 Officer.

## BACKGROUND PAPERS AVAILABLE FOR ACCESS

22. UK Electoral Statistics 2014 – Published by the Office for National Statistics.

## RECOMMENDATIONS RESTATED

23. Member are asked to consider this report and -
  - (i) Approve the composition of the Fire Authority for 2015 /16.
  - (ii) Note the appointments to the Fire Authority made by each of the constituent authorities.

**M BUCKLEY**

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JS  
1 June 2015

**COMPOSITION OF FIRE AUTHORITY 2015/16**

1. **East Riding of Yorkshire Council (8)**

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Councillor Margaret Chapman MBE | (Conservative) |
| Councillor Helen Green          | (Conservative) |
| Councillor Arthur Hodgson       | (Conservative) |
| Councillor Christopher Matthews | (Conservative) |
| Councillor Dee Sharpe           | (Conservative) |
| Councillor Peter Turner         | (Conservative) |
| Councillor Barbara Jefferson JP | (Independent)  |
| Councillor Shelagh Finlay       | (Labour)       |

2. **Hull City Council (6)**

|                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Councillor Peter Allen           | (Labour)           |
| Councillor Carol Clarkson        | (Labour)           |
| Councillor Leanne Fudge          | (Labour)           |
| Councillor Steve Wilson          | (Labour)           |
| Councillor Karen Mathieson       | (Liberal Democrat) |
| Councillor Ruth Payne LLB (Hons) | (Liberal Democrat) |

3. **North East Lincolnshire Council (4)**

|                            |                |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Councillor Philip Jackson  | (Conservative) |
| Councillor Mike Burton     | (Labour)       |
| Councillor Ray Sutton      | (Labour)       |
| Councillor Ronald Shepherd | (UKIP)         |

4. **North Lincolnshire Council (4)**

|                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Councillor John Briggs    | (Conservative) |
| Councillor Nigel Sherwood | (Conservative) |
| Councillor Rob Waltham    | (Conservative) |
| Councillor Mick Grant     | (Labour)       |

