

# NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND CITY OF NOTTINGHAM FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

#### POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

#### MINUTES

of meeting held on <u>27 APRIL 2012</u> at Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Bestwood Lodge from 10.00 am to 11.16 am.

(Chair)

# **Membership**

Councillor D Pulk

Councillor S Fielding

Councillor E Kerry

Councillor K Rigby

Councillor D Smith

Councillor G Wheeler

Members absent are marked ^

Present as an observer - Councillor Grocock

# 39 ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair apologised to the meeting for the late availability of the reports relating to agenda items 6 and 7, the completion of which had been delayed until the Compromise Agreement referred to in agenda item 6 (revised agenda item 5) had been signed. To allow members sufficient time to consider the reports, the Chair proposed an adjournment after agenda item 3.

A more logical consideration of the agenda items would be:

- 5. Strategic Management Re-structure;
- 6. Appointments Process;
- 7. Gold Rota Options.

# 40 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

#### 41 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Chief Fire Officer declared a personal and financial interest in agenda item 5 (revised agenda item 7), 'Gold Rota,' (minute 46), and left the room when this item was discussed.

## 42 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 27 January 2012 and 12 March 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 10.02 am until 10.12 am.

## 43 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

Councillor Kerry queried the necessity for the exclusion of the public for the entirety of the remainder of the meeting on the grounds of transparency.

The Clerk explained that where certain elements of a report were clearly confidential, it was a requirement that the public be excluded, where, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing it.

RESOLVED that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the remaining item in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the basis that, having regard to all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed the public interest in disclosing the information, as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

## 44 STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT TEAM RE-STRUCTURE

Further to minute 38 dated 12 March 2012, consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, updating the Committee on the proposals for the Strategic Management Team re-structure in accordance with the adopted recommendations of the Fire Cover Review. An agreement had been reached with the Deputy Chief Fire Officer on 25 April 2012, leaving a permanent vacancy at that level.

RESOLVED that the fact that the Compromise Agreement had been signed be noted.

#### 45 APPOINTMENTS PROCESS

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, establishing the criteria for the appointment of a Deputy Chief Fire Officer.

RESOLVED that a Deputy Chief Fire Officer be appointed on a permanent basis and that the Appointments Committee be advised accordingly.

The Chief Fire Officer left the room prior to the discussion of the next item.

#### **46 GOLD ROTA OPTIONS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Fire Officer, copies of which had been circulated, setting out options for the operation of the Gold Rota following the retirement of the Deputy Chief Fire Officer and the subsequent reduction of uniformed principal officers by the equivalent of one Brigade Manager.

RESOLVED the Treasurer be tasked with negotiating with the Association of Principal Fire Officers to seek agreement to make a one-off payment to 'buy-out' current rota arrangements of the 3 Principal Officers providing Gold Rota cover for a total sum not exceeding that authorised by the Committee and notified to the Treasurer and Clerk to the Authority.

## 47 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2012, copies of which had been circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair.